

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Hertford (M.B.)

Hoddesdon (U.D.)

Ware (R.D.)

Ware (U.D.)

Braughing (R.D.)

Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)

Hertford (R.D.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

Charles Martin Billington,
M.D., Ch.B.(Cantab.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.)
(to 30 9/1948)

John Henry Wildman
M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.H.
(from 1/10/1948)

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Sanitary Inspectors.

JOHN BARNISH*	The Castle, HERTFORD (M.B.)
WM. NOEL DAVID*	Council Offices, HODDESDON (U.D.)
CHAS. J. LUCAS*	...	...	...	The Priory, WARE (U.D.)
JOHN ARTHUR YATES*†	...	...	...	Council Offices, SAWBRIDGEWORTH (U.D.)
A. D. G. GOOLD*†	...	...	...	} 97, New Road, WARE (R.D.)
P. G. ALLISON†	...	...	...
E. E. WATERIDGE†	...	...	...	} Bridgefoot House, BUNTINGFORD BRAUGHING (R.D.)
G. C. SMITH†	...	...	...
HORACE ERNEST GILBEY†	...	...	...	2, Parliament Square, HERTFORD (R.D.)

† Additional Sanitary Inspector.

* Certified Meat Inspector (Sanitary Inspector's Examination Board).

† Also District Council Surveyor.

EAST HERTS. COMBINED DISTRICTS

— P R E F A C E —

The following report on the health of the East Herts Combined Sanitary Districts has been drawn up on the lines indicated in circular 3/49 (England) issued by the Ministry of Health. The various rates have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the resident mid-year population for 1948.

Size of District.

The Combined Districts formerly consisted of eight sanitary authorities, but on October 1st, 1948, the Urban District of Bishop's Stortford arranged to leave the Combine. I understand that the Medical Officer of Health for Bishop's Stortford will be submitting a separate health report for 1948.

The remaining seven districts comprising the East Herts Combined Districts have an area of 119,662 acres, or a little less than 187 square miles. The District is roughly oval in shape, measuring approximately 18 miles from North to South, and 15 miles from West to East, at the greatest diameters. The estimated mid-year population for 1948 is 68,942 persons; an increase of 2,733 persons over the 1947 figure.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

With the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on July 5th, 1948, responsibility for diphtheria immunisation passed out of the hands of each local sanitary authority into the care of the County Council. Free immunisation is now available through a scheme organised by the Herts County Council in discharge of its functions under Part III, Section 26 of the above act, as approved by the Minister of Health.

Hospital Services

The whole of the East Herts Combined Districts now comes within the area of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. It is served mainly by the hospitals within the jurisdiction of the Hertford Group (No. 1) Hospital Management Committee; but any of the specialist services within the region are readily obtained where necessary.

Public Health Laboratory Service.

This provides facilities for examination of water, milk, and ice-cream samples, and other laboratory investigations of public health interest. The nearest full time laboratories are at Cambridge, Luton, and in London. These are too far away to be used regularly by the Combined Districts.

The laboratory attached to the Hertford County Hospital in Hertford, dealt with most of the bacteriological examinations of

water samples from the Combined Districts. However, no facilities exist at this laboratory for the bacteriological examination of ice-cream samples, with a result that routine sampling of this commodity is in abeyance in most of the districts. Because of the presence in Ware Urban District of two ice-cream factories (one is large), regular sampling is essential, especially as distribution of the products is extensive. Seventy-nine samples were taken, necessitating fourteen journeys to the Public Health Laboratory in Cambridge, in order to ensure that the samples arrived rapidly and in a fit condition. One other Authority (Braughing R.D.C.), regularly sends milk samples to the Cambridge Laboratory. These samples are from undesigned milk producers and retailers within that rural district.

Chemical examinations of water samples were carried out at two privately-run laboratories in London.

It would be an advantage both to the Combined Districts and to the Laboratory concerned, to have a full-time Public Health Laboratory situated in Hertford, large enough to deal with both chemical and bacteriological examinations of water, ice-cream, and other samples. Specimens could then arrive at the Laboratory with a minimum of delay, and there would be a considerable saving in time and expense to the local Sanitary Authorities.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors and other Officials of the various districts, for information concerning the public health aspects of their work. I am also grateful to their respective clerical staffs, especially the members of the Borough of Hertford Health Department, for compiling this Report.

JOHN WILDMAN,

The Castle, Hertford.
August, 1949.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Resident Population.	Birth Rate (per 1,000 Population).	Death Rate (per 1,000 Population).	Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 Total Births — Live and Still).
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.				
Hertford	14,150	16.7	9.6	17
URBAN DISTRICTS.				
Hoddesdon	13,680	17.0	9.1	17
Ware	8,810	17.7	11.8	51
Sawbridgeworth	3,612	14.4	11.4	0
RURAL DISTRICTS.				
Ware	10,070	17.4	11.9	17
Braughing	10,490	19.4	10.7	15
Hertford	8,130	21.0	9.3	12
East Herts (C.D.)	68,942	17.8	10.3	20
England and Wales ...		17.9	10.8	34

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	Area (Acres)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948, according to the Rate Books)	Density (persons per acre)	Density (houses per acre)	Average number of occupants per house	Rateable value	Sum represented by a Penny Rate
						£	£
Hertford (M.B.) ...	3,882	4,372	3.6	1.13	3.2	106,453	404
Hoddesdon ...	4,423	3,847	3.1	0.87	3.6	95,002	384
Ware (U.D.) ...	1,343	2,170	6.6	1.62	4.1	48,997	195
Sawbridgeworth ...	2,678	1,054	1.3	0.39	3.4	22,775	88
Ware (R.D.) ...	29,102	2,740	0.3	0.09	3.7	64,404	250
Braughing ...	45,570	3,478	0.2	0.08	3.0	45,587	190
Hertford (R.D.) ...	32,664	2,410	0.2	0.07	3.5	37,704	150
East Herts (C.D.)	119,662	20,071	0.6	0.17	3.5		

	BIRTHS						DEATHS		Natural Increase or Decrease
	Legitimate	Illegitimate		TOTAL					
		Num-ber	Per centage	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Hertford (M.B.)...	234	3	1.3	120	117	72	64	+101	
Hoddesdon ...	220	12	5.2	110	122	63	61	+108	
Ware (U.D.) ...	152	4	2.6	68	88	56	48	+52	
Sawbridgeworth ...	52	—	—	27	25	22	19	+11	
Ware (R.D.) ...	167	8	4.6	81	94	64	56	+55	
Braughing ...	193	10	4.9	100	103	62	50	+91	
Hertford (R.D.) ...	166	5	2.9	89	82	44	32	+95	
East Herts (C.D.)	1,114	42	3.4	595	631	383	330	+513	

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

	NEW CASES					DEATHS					Mortality Rate per 1,000 population
	Res- piratory M.	F.	Non-Res- piratory M.	F.	Total	Res- piratory M.	F.	Non-Res- piratory M.	F.	Total	
Hertford (M.B.) ...	8	6	1	4	19	3	1	1	...	5	0.35
Hoddesdon	5	6	...	1	12	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Ware (U.D.) ...	8	...	3	1	12	3	...	2	...	5	0.57
Sawbridgeworth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0.28
Ware (R.D.) ...	5	1	1	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Braughing ...	5	5	...	...	10	1	2	...	...	3	0.29
Hertford (R.D.) ...	7	6	1	3	17	3	3	...	...	6	0.74
East Herts (C.D.)	38	24	6	11	79	10	6	3	1	20	0.68

*Number of cases remaining on the Register
at the end of the year*

		Respiratory M.	F.	Non-Respiratory M.	F.	Total	Increase or Decrease over 1947
Hertford (M.B.)	...	28	16	9	16	69	+ 10
Hoddesdon	...	50	31	10	13	104	+ 8
Ware (U.D.)	...	19	4	11	8	42	- 1
Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)	...	7	1	2	10	10	...
Ware (R.D.)	...	14	16	9	11	50	- 11
Braughing	...	18	9	10	9	46	+ 3
Hertford (R.D.)	...	13	12	3	8	36	- 9
East Herts (C.D.)	...	142	95	53	67	357	+ -- ...

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
Hertford (M.B.)	5	...	134	37	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Hoddesdon	9	1	29	48	...	...	...	1	...	3	1
Ware (U.D.)	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sawbridgeworth	...	...	65	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Ware (R.D.)	5	...	47	54	...	...	...	1	...	7	...
Braughing	8	...	21	76	...	1	...	2	...	11	...
Hertford (R.D.)	2	...	78	17	...	...	...	1	...	5	...
East Herts (C.D.)	30	1	377	235	...	1	...	7	...	27	3

Case Rate.

	Per 1,000 Population										Per 1,000 Total Births
	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
Hertford (M.B.)	0.35	...	9.47	2.61	...	...	...	0.07	...	0.07	8.26
Hoddesdon	0.66	0.07	2.12	3.51	...	...	...	0.07	...	0.22	4.27
Ware (U.D.)	0.11	...	0.34	0.11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sawbridgeworth	...	...	18.00	0.55	...	...	...	0.28	...	...	...
Ware (R.D.)	0.50	...	4.67	5.36	...	...	...	0.10	...	0.70	...
Braughing	0.76	...	2.00	7.25	...	0.10	...	0.19	...	1.05	...
Hertford (R.D.)	0.25	...	9.59	2.09	...	..	...	0.12	...	0.61	...
East Herts (C.D.)	0.44	0.01	5.50	3.41	...	0.01	...	0.10	...	0.39	2.41
England & Wales	1.73	0.08	9.34	3.42	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.21	...	0.73	6.89

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Hertford M.B.		Hoddes- don		Ware U.D.		S'gworth		Ware R.D.		Braughing		Hertford R.D.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	...	72	64	63	61	56	48	22	19	64	56	62	50	44	32
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	5	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	3	2
Syphilitic diseases	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	...	15	13	13	11	12	11	0	6	15	14	14	7	10	9
Diabetes	...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	...	10	7	2	11	1	6	3	2	7	12	12	4	1	4
Heart diseases	...	15	19	21	24	13	14	10	3	19	11	14	15	11	8
Other diseases of the circulatory system	...	0	1	2	3	7	2	2	7	2	2	0	2	2	2
Bronchitis	...	4	1	0	3	5	1	0	1	2	0	4	1	4	2
Pneumonia	...	3	9	4	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	2	1	0	1
Other respiratory diseases	...	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	4	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	0
Appendicitis	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other digestive diseases	...	4	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	3	0	2
Nephritis	...	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	2	3	2	1	0	1
Pregnancy and childbirth	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Birth injuries: infant diseases; premature births	...	0	0	3	1	6	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0
Suicide...	...	0	0	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents	...	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	0
Other violent causes	...	2	2	4	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	2	0
All other causes	...	7	7	3	1	4	3	4	0	3	3	4	8	8	0
Still Births	...	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	1	2
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	...	2	2	3	1	6	2	0	0	1	2	2	1	2	0

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections of Factories.

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Factories without Mechanical Power							
Number on Register	27	20	11	13	15	41	8
Inspections	7	7	1	24	22	41	3
Written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Occupier Prosecuted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Factories with Mechanical Power							
Number on Register	81	85	51	21	28	14	5
Inspections	34	138	10	18	20	14	1
Written Notices	2	4	...	...	...	...	...
Occupier Prosecuted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Premises under the Act							
(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of buildings operations and works of engineering construction, but not including Out- workers premises.							
Number on Register	...	1	...	5	...	...	...
Inspections	...	2	...	7	...	...	...
Written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Occupier Prosecuted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Outworkers.

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Wearing apparel:—							
Making, etc.	160	...	...	...	13	...	14
Cleaning and Washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Box Making	...	...	59	...	8	...	...
Brush Making	40	...	...	...	18	...	2

Defects found in Factories.

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Want of cleanliness							
Found	...	7	...	...	...	12	1
Remedied	...	7	...	...	...	12	1
Overcrowding							
Found	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature							
Found	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Inadequate ventilation							
Found	...	2	...	...	1	...	...
Remedied	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors							
Found	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary conveniences insufficient							
Found	...	8	...	...	4	...	...
Remedied	1	8	...	...	4	...	...
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective							
Found	...	3	...	...	2	...	...
Remedied	2	3	...	...	2	...	...
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes							
Found	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Remedied	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Other offences							
Found	...	4	...	1	...	...	...
Remedied	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Total defects							
Found	...	28	...	1	7	13	1
Remedied	3	28	...	...	6	13	1
Total defects referred to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total defects referred by H.M. Inspector	1	...	...	...	...	...	...

BOROUGH OF HERTFORD.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, and SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewers serving the Town take both storm water and foul sewage and serve most of the developed part of the Borough. Extensions to deal with new property have been connected as required.

The Town's sewage is treated by the Activated Sludge process and during the year extensions to the Mead Lane Works have been completed. The construction of three primary digestion tanks each of 125,000 gallons capacity has been undertaken as a means of providing effluent which shall be satisfactory and also in order to keep abreast of modern methods of treatment. Analysis of the effluent proves that the aim has been achieved.

Sewers and drains have been laid to connect up those areas of the Town which have been developed during the year.

Periodical cleansing of sewers, gulleys and drains has been undertaken to maintain their efficiency and street cleansing is undertaken with one of the latest types of modern road sweeping machines.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

A weekly collection of refuse is carried out to each household in modern types of low loading covered vehicles.

Trade refuse and kitchen waste are collected twice weekly.

Salvage collection is dealt with by the addition of trailer to the refuse vehicles as circumstances require. One vehicle is maintained in operation to deal with the paper collection from business premises.

Partial separation takes place at the Disposal Works and Salvaged materials when sold provide a source of income.

Refuse disposal is dealt with by means of controlled tipping on modern lines at Hartham, and the reclaimed areas of land are being developed for recreational purposes.

WATER SUPPLY.

Source.

All the water is obtained from five boreholes sunk in chalk. Most of the town is supplied from the Port Hill Reservoir which is filled from the pumping stations at Molewood (one borehole) and Wadesmill Road (two boreholes). Bengoe, Hertingfordbury, Great Molewood and the higher parts of the town are supplied from the Bengoe Water Tower, which is filled from the pumping stations at

Wadesmill Road and Hartham (one borehole). The Port Hill pumping station (one borehole) was used as a standby pumping station only, in 1948.

Quality.

Chemical—The water has no plumbo-solvent or other detrimental action, and although rather hard, is of a high standard of purity. A chemical examination of the water (before treatment) was carried out in October, 1948, from each of the four pumping stations with the following results :—

CHEMICAL ANALYSES (parts per million)				
(Samples taken 22nd October, 1948)	WADESMILL ROAD	PORT HILL	HARTHAM	MOLEWOOD
Appearance - -	Bright with a few particles of mineral debris	Clear and bright	Bright with a very few particles of mineral debris	Clear and Bright
Turbidity (Silica scale)	Less than 5	Nil	Less than 5	Nil
Colour (Hazen) -	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Taste - - -	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Reaction pH. - -	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1
Free CO ₂ - -	36	29	28	28
Electric Conductivity at 20°C -	520	510	540	510
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	250	250	245	245
Total solids dried at 180°C	350	350	365	345
Hardness :—				
Carbonate (Temp)	250	250	245	245
Non-Carb. (Perm)	45	35	40	35
Total - - -	295*	285*	285*	280*
Nitrogen in :—				
Nitrates - -	4.6	4.4	3.2	3.4
Nitrites - -	Absent	Less than 0.01	Absent	Absent
Free Ammonia -	0.000	0.020	0.010	0.000
Free Chlorine -	—	—	—	—
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C -	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Metals - - -	Iron : less than 0.03 Other metals absent	Absent	Iron : 0.05 Other metals absent	Absent

*The precise figure calculated from the magnesium and calcium contents.

Bacteriological.—The water was examined bacteriologically monthly with the following results:—

Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Plate Count: Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. of coliform bacilli, MacConkey, 2 dys, 37°C	Report	Date	Plate Count: Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. of coliform bacilli, MacConkey, 2 dys, 37°C	Report	
	3 dys at 22° C	2 dys at 37° C		S-Satisfactory N.S.-Not Satisfactory		3 dys at 22° C	2 dys at 37° C		S-Satisfactory N.S.-Not Satisfactory	
PORT HILL					WADESMILL ROAD					
27. 1.48	4	1	Nil	S	27. 1.48	6	2	Nil	S	
2. 3.48	8	4	Nil	S	2. 3.48	7	3	Nil	S	
30. 3.48	4	1	Nil	S	30. 3.48	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	
26. 4.48	4	9	Nil	S	26. 4.48	4	1	Nil	S	
25. 5.48	5	1	Nil	S	25. 5.48	4	Nil	Nil	S	
22. 6.48	5	3	Nil	S	22. 6.48	4	2	Nil	S	
20. 7.48	3	Nil	Nil	S	20. 7.48	7	2	Nil	S	
7. 9.48	3	2	Nil	S	7. 9.48	3	4	Nil	S	
16.11.48	5	1	Nil	S	16.11.48	2	Nil	Nil	S	
MOLEWOOD					HARTHAM					
27. 1.48	7	3	Nil	S	27. 1.48	12	3	Nil	S	
2. 3.48	5	2	Nil	S	2. 3.48	6	3	Nil	S	
30. 3.48	5	2	Nil	S	30. 3.48	11	6	Nil	S	
26. 4.48	3	Nil	Nil	S	26. 4.48	5	2	Nil	S	
25. 5.48	5	2	Nil	S	25. 5.48	7	3	Nil	S	
22. 6.48	3	Nil	Nil	S	22. 6.48	5	2	Nil	S	
20. 7.48	7	3	Nil	S	20. 7.48	4	Nil	Nil	S	
7. 9.48	2	1	Nil	S	7. 9.48	2	Nil	Nil	S	
16.11.48	4	2	Nil	S	16.11.48	12	3	Nil	S	
(Samples taken 22.10.1948)			Number of colonies developing on agar per cc. or ml. in			Presumptive Coliform Re-action		Bact. Coli.	Cl. welchii Reaction	
			1 day at 37° C	2 dys at 37° C	3 dys at 20° C	Pres- ent in	Ab- sent from	Ab- sent from	Absent from	
PORT HILL			...	0	0	0	—	100 ml	100 ml	100 ml
WADESMILL ROAD			...	0	0	0	—	100 ml	100 ml	100 ml
MOLEWOOD			...	0	0	0	—	100 ml	100 ml	100 ml
HARTHAM			...	80	90	78	10*ml	1 ml	100 ml	100 ml

*Due to coliform bacteria of Intermediate Type I

Quantity.

During the year ending 31st December, 1948, the total amount of water raised was 313,525,688 gallons, of which 98,352,000 gallons was trade metered consumption. The average total amount raised daily was 856,354 gallons, and the average amount per head per day (excluding trade metered consumption) was 41·5 gallons.

General.

Chlorination plants are in operation at each of the four pumping stations belonging to the Council. The normal dose of chlorine in 1948 was approximately 0·25 parts per million.

At the Hartham Works, simple chlorination is carried out, owing to the close proximity of consumers' services, and the diluted "Chloros" or "Voxsan" is injected into the suction tube by means of a manual controlled water pressure operated hypochlorinator (there being no electricity available) with a mechanical recorder showing the rate of flow of the sterilising agent into the suction tube. The difficulty originally experienced at Hartham Works owing to the hardness of the water was overcome by adding soda ash to the water used for mixing with the "Chloros" solution, but with the use of "Voxsan" the need for softening disappeared.

The same process has been adopted at the Port Hill (stand-by) Works. The only difference is that the hypochlorinator is operated by a small electric motor.

At Molewood the chloramine process is in operation, liquid chlorine being used in conjunction with ammonia, the chlorine being injected into the suction tube by means of a vacuum controlled chlorinator, and the ammonia by means of a manual controlled ammoniator, the rate of discharge being shown on a vacuum operated recorder.

The same chloramine process has been adopted at the Wadesmill Road Pumping Station, the mixture of chlorine and ammonia being discharged into the suction tubes at a depth of approximately 185 feet below the surface. Owing to there being two rates of discharge from the pumps at this station, an electric automatic control is installed to change the rate of flow of the chlorine accordingly. At these works it was originally found that after a few hours pumping, the ammonia solution tanks became choked with a heavy precipitation of calcium salts, which also began to adhere to the inside of the pipe lines. The solution water is now treated with sodium hexametaphosphate to allay this precipitation.

Total Number of Visits	2,967
Dwelling Houses inspected (Public Health Acts)	108
„ „ inspected (Housing Acts)	29
„ „ enumerated (Housing Act—	643
Overcrowding	
„ „ re-inspections and re-visits	974
(Public Health and Housing Acts)	
General Inspections	101
„ „ re-visits	103
Interviews	49
Complaints investigated	69
Food Inspections	195
„ „ Control visits	117
Visits re cases of Infectious Disease	10
„ „ „ „ „ „ Disinfections	10
Miscellaneous	295

Factories	26
Outworkers Premises			50
Bakehouses	15
Cowsheds	29
Dairies	29
Ice-cream premises	23
Slaughterhouses	6
Shops, Meat Stores			68
Common Lodging Houses	18
Total Number of Visits							...	2,967

Informal Notices	45
Statutory Notices	12
Improvements carried out	123

Canal Boats (Part X).

No registered canal boats have been observed using the canal during the year.

Common Lodging Houses (Part IX).

The White House, Railway Street.

This is the only registered Common Lodging House within the Borough. The house provides nightly accommodation for 32 men ; the number of men accommodated during the year was 6,830, a nightly average of 19 men.

During the year certain improvements have been required concerned with washing facilities, provision of dustbins and general supervision. The requirements have been complied with.

The walls of the rooms at the house were cleansed and colour-washed throughout during the year.

The premises have been kept under observation, 18 visits having been made during the year. The house is generally well conducted.

No case of infectious disease has been notified at the house.

Hertingfordbury—Sanitary Circumstances.

Replacement of Earth Closets by Water Closets at joint expense of Owners and the Local Authority.

In March, 1948, the Corporation approached the Ministry of Health for purposes of a loan to further a scheme of the conversion of pail closets to the water carriage system of 28 houses within the area having a sufficient water supply and sewer available.

The Corporation were informed that owing to the present shortage of labour and materials, the Minister in exercise of his functions under Regulation 56A, Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, has to discriminate between works which are desirable and those which are immediately essential, in the circumstances a report of the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health was requested. The Medical Officer of Health reported his opinion that the improvements are generally desirable.

The carrying out of the improvements is in abeyance.

The periodic cleansing of the pail closets commenced by the Corporation in November, 1947, is continued.

Water Supply.

The houses in the area are provided with constant water supply connected with the Borough Service.

Houses as follows are served by stand-pipes :—

Houses 229, 231, 233, 235,	Hertingfordbury Road.	One external tap.
„ 237, 239, 241,	„ „ „ „ „	„
260, 262, 264, 266, }		
„ 268, 270, 272, 274, }	„ „ „ „ „	„

Verminous Premises, Articles and Persons.

Verminous Premises (Section 83).

Disinfestation was carried out at three houses during the year, D.D.T. Preparations being used in each case.

Verminous Persons (Section 85).

Although the Scabies Order, 1941, is now no longer in force, the arrangements made under the Order whereby verminous persons are treated at the County Welfare Clinic, Bull Plain, have continued in force.

All male cases are treated by a male employee of the Corporation specially trained for the work, and the County Council have agreed for all female cases to be treated by the Nursing Sisters or Health Visitors.

Fly Infestation.

Early in the year complaints were received in regard to a fly nuisance. These complaints were due to the fly "*musca autumnalis*" and were confined to two separate areas of the town.

Advice on the life history and habits of this fly was received from the Department of Entomology at the British Museum. The information supplied by the aforesaid department provided a valuable guide in the tendering of advice to eight householders who applied to the health department for assistance.

A suitable spray was loaned by this department and advice given in regard to suitable D.D.T. preparations.

HOUSING ACTS.

Houses Nos. 2 and 4, Pegs Lane.

In February, 1933, these houses became subject to an "undertaking" that, on vacant possession, the houses would not be relet for human habitation and would be demolished. During August, the houses were demolished except a portion of No. 2, which has become part of the adjoining premises of the Chaseside Motor Company.

House 22, Mangrove Road, Mangrove Hall Lodge.

In February, 1947, the house was inspected and found to be in very insanitary condition, the house was occupied by squatters. On the 23rd December, 1948, the house was vacated. The County Council, owners of the property, purpose carrying out general repairs to render the premises fit for habitation to provide hostel accommodation in connection with the Teachers' Training College, Balls Park.

Overcrowding Particulars, 1948.

During the year, an enumeration has been carried out at 643 houses, of which number 82 were mostly concerned with complaints of overcrowding and applications for Corporation houses. Existing cases of overcrowding have been kept under review during the year.

The remaining 561 houses were re-enumerations as part of a routine survey. The survey includes six areas of the town, particulars of which are given below.

Area 1. Baker Street, Ash Street, Oak Street, Elm Street.

Area 2. The Polly, Old Hall Street, Frampton Street, Riverside, Thornton Street.

Area 3. Hartham Lane, Cowbridge, Dimsdale St., Chambers Street.

Area 4. Port Vale, George Street, Russell Street, Balfour Street.

Area 5. Nelson Street, Molewood Road.

Area 6. Byde Street, Wellington Street.

The following table gives the summarised figures for each area and the comparable figures of population and overcrowding as obtained during the Overcrowding Survey carried out under the Housing Acts, 1935 and 1936.

Area	No. of Houses	Population				Overcrowding			Borderline Overcrowding			Houses with two families		
		1948	1936	increase or decrease		1948 % of area		1936	1948 % of area		1936	1948 % of area		1936
1	71	297	266	+ 31		6	8·5	4	3	4·2	2	12	16·9	—
2	113	342	372	— 30		—	—	—	1	0·9	—	11	9·7	6
3	64	222	219	+ 3		—	—	1	—	—	4	9	14·1	1
4	129	395	416	— 21		—	—	1	1	0·8	—	13	10·1	2
5	71	219	203	+ 16		—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7·0	1
6	113	322	327	— 5		1	0·9	—	—	—	—	4	3·5	—
Totals	561	1797	1803	— 6		7	1·2	6	5	0·9	6	54	9·6	10

The following table is set out in similar form to that required by the Minister of Health in 1936 for the tabulation of the results obtained for the Overcrowding Survey, 1935/36.

"Equivalent Adults" in occupation of each dwelling. (Adult over 10 years = 1 person ; Child between 1—10 yrs. = ; Child under 1 year of age—not counted)																				
		1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10
"Permitted Number" of "Persons" allowed to occupy	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3½	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4½	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	—	—	3	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5½	1	—	2	3	6	1	3	3	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	6	1	—	6	4	6	3	7	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6½	4	—	7	2	8	2	2	—	5	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	7	6	—	12	5	14	1	6	3	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	7½	26	1	78	19	51	12	24	5	9	1	3	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
	8	1	—	9	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8½	3	—	29	3	14	2	7	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	9	2	—	12	4	14	5	8	5	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	9½	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	3	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10½	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
11	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
11½	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
12	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Totals:																				
Border-line		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Over-crowded		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	1
Un-crowded		45	1	169	48	126	29	64	19	29	7	7	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—

The following tabulation of "Rooms per house" x "Number of persons per house" varies from the above tabulation in that no account is taken of the 'permitted number' of the houses or rooms, or of their size, and for the number of persons in the house, all individuals are counted as one person.

		Number of persons in occupation at each house											No. of 2—8 roomed dwellings
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Number of rooms per dwelling	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	3	—	3	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
	4	32	99	88	64	16	9	4	3	1	—	2	318
	5	12	62	51	32	25	15	4	3	—	1	—	205
	6	1	5	7	3	3	2	—	1	1	—	—	23
	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	8	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dwellings occupied by 1—11 persons		45	170	151	104	45	26	8	7	2	1	2	561
No. of persons		45	340	453	416	225	156	56	56	18	10	22	1,797
		i.e. 'Dwellings' x No. of persons in occupation.'											

From the above tabulation it will be seen that of the total of 561 houses, 318 or 56·7% are four roomed, and 205 or 36·5% are 5 roomed dwellings.

With regard to the number of persons occupying the houses, the three largest groups give the following percentages :—

2 persons per house = 170 (30·3%) houses ; 340 (18·9%) persons.

3 persons per house = 151 (26·9%) houses ; 453 (25·2%) persons.

4 persons per house = 104 (18·5%) houses ; 416 (21·1%) persons.

From the recorded information obtained from the six areas, the number of persons per house is 3·2., this figure coincides with that for the whole Borough based on the Registrar General's estimated figure of population and the number of houses in the Borough according to the Rate Books.

Overcrowding Summary.

The following summary of recorded conditions of overcrowding within the Borough, based on existing statutory standards, indicates improvement during the year.

Overcrowding.

No. of Overcrowded houses at 1st January, 1948	17
Rehoused by Corporation	11
Abated by Occupier	4
	15
New cases discovered (including 1 Border-line case which became overcrowded during the year)	7
No. of Overcrowding cases at 31st December, 1948	8
	9

Borderline Cases.

No. of Borderline cases at 1st January, 1948		17
Rehoused by Corporation	4	
Abated by Occupier	4	
Cases which became overcrowded during the year	1	
	<hr/>	9
New cases discovered (including 1 partial overcrowding case which became Borderline overcrowding during the year)	6	3
No. of Borderline cases at 31st December, 1948		<hr/> <hr/> 14

Partial Overcrowding Cases (overcrowding of rooms).

No. of Partially Overcrowded cases at 1st January, 1948		17
Rehoused by Corporation	5	
Abated by Occupier... ..	4	
Cases which became Borderline overcrowding during the year	1	
	<hr/>	10
New cases discovered during the year	2	8
No. of Partial Overcrowding cases at 31st December, 1948		<hr/> <hr/> 9

HOUSING PROGRESS.*By Private Enterprise during 1948*

New Dwellings erected - - - - -	7
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt - - - - -	8
Repairs of War Damaged Houses - - - - -	1
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units - - - - -	11

By Local Authority during 1948

New Dwellings erected - - - - -	52
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units - - - - -	—

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1948

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts	
Corporation houses - - - - -	715
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows - - - - -	50
Sundries - - - - -	21
Requisitioned dwellings - - - - -	8

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Milk and Dairies.

Milk Supply.

Number of Registered Producers	...	...	...	...	11
" " " Producer/Retailers of Milk	...	...	...	...	1
" " " Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	1
" " " Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...
(Premises outside the Borough)					2
Number of Inspections of Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	29
Number of Inspections of Dairies	...	...	...	...	29

During the year an informal request was investigated reference the possibility of registration as a Dairyman in regard to a corrugated iron lean-to shed. On the grounds of expense in complying with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, the intention to register was abandoned.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936—1946.

Producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	...	...	6
Producer/Retailers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	...	...	-
" " " "Accredited" Milk	...	...	...	...	-
Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised Milk"	...	...	...	...	2

During the year, copies of reports on 20 samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk, taken by the County Council from farms within the Borough, were received. Of these 20 samples, 4 did not comply with the required standard, but subsequent samples were among the remaining 16 which complied with the required standard.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream Premises.

The number of registered premises for the sale of Ice Cream within the Borough is:—

Registered Dealers (including 3 registrations during 1948)	13
Registered Producer/Dealer "cold mix"	1
Number of changes of occupation	-
Number of Inspections	23
Number of contraventions	1

Registration in one case was deferred pending the provision of hot water supply. The requirements of the Corporation having been carried out, the premises were registered.

Contraventions.

One contravention of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was remedied, the contravention referred to the name and address of the vendor not being conspicuously displayed on the stall.

Cafes and Restaurants.

The following contraventions were remedied during the year:—

Provision of hot water supply	...	...	...	...	2
General cleanliness	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of adequate food storage (a refrigerator was provided)	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of adequate drainage arrangements	...	...	...	...	1

A further contravention, viz., no intervening ventilated space to the sanitary convenience, was discovered during the year. A builder has instructions to carry out the work.

Shops and Meat Stores.

Number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	...	...	...	16
Number of Meat Retailers	...	...	...	14
Number of shops retailing general foodstuffs (not including the above Meat Retailers)	...	...	...	56
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	68
Number of Contraventions	...	...	...	7

Contraventions.

Contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act discovered and remedied during the year included:—

Provision of sufficient hot water supply	...	...	...	3
Provision of suitable and sufficient washing facilities. (At the end of the year washing facilities had been provided and cold water supply laid on, arrangements are in hand for the provision of hot water supply	...	...	...	1
Provision of sufficient ventilation to the intervening ventilated space to the sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	1
Provision of ventilation to a Food Store	...	...	...	1
Cleansing and repair of ceilings	...	...	...	1

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtermen.

The four licenced Slaughterhouses in the town are not being used at the present time, centralised slaughter for the area being carried out at the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughterhouse at Ware.

There are four Slaughtermen licenced by the Corporation under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

During the year, 6 visits were made to the Slaughterhouses in respect of Section 57 (2a), reference the renewal of licences.

An enquiry was received during the year from the Ministry of Food as to the number of premises suitably equipped for the humane slaughter of pigs within the Borough. The Ministry of Food's Executive Officer was informed that, "since the establishment of centralised slaughtering at Ware, the four licenced slaughterhouses within the Borough have deteriorated by disuse. Two only of the occupiers of the premises are still provided with mechanically operated instruments for the slaughter of animals. No slaughterhouses were therefore suitable for the slaughter and preparation of carcasses for human consumption."

Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

During the year a considerable amount of time has been taken up with food inspections. The duties have necessitated 195 visits for examination purposes and the issue of 191 Certificates of Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

The foodstuffs dealt with are set out as follows:—

Canned Foodstuffs.

	No. of Containers	Weight in lbs.
Corned Beef - - - - -	119	414 $\frac{3}{4}$
Corned Mutton - - - - -	20	109 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corned Meat - - - - -	45	260
Other Meats and Meat Products - - -	33	38
Soups - - - - -	35	35
Pulses - - - - -	49	63 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vegetables - - - - -	36	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fruit - - - - -	34	49 $\frac{3}{4}$
Milk - - - - -	84	77
Preserves and Jams - - - - -	26	59
Pickles and Sauces - - - - -	58	59 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cereals - - - - -	80	194 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fish and Fish Products - - - - -	203	175 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous - - - - -	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>826</u>	<u>1,598</u>
Meat Depot - - - - -	93 containers	321 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Institutions and Schools - - - - -	66 "	199 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Shops - - - - -	667 "	1076 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Totals	<u>826 containers</u>	<u>1598 lbs.</u>

The Meat Depot, the South Eastern Wholesale Meat Supply Association, situated within the Borough, is a distribution centre for the meat traders within the surrounding area. Close co-operation has been maintained with the Depot in regard to notification and examination of suspect canned meat.

The above 80 containers of Cereals weighing 194 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. were salvaged by the Corporation for pig food.

Fish.

Fish Roes - -	291 lbs.	Herrings - -	98 lbs.
Haddocks, Smoked -	280 "	Dogfish - -	84 "
" Fresh -	35 "	Cod - -	70 "
Sprats - -	196 "	Prawns - -	56 "
Skate Wings - -	140 "	Shrimps - -	32 "
Plaice - -	126 "		
		Total	<u>1408 lbs.</u>

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Beef (5 Hindquarters, Frozen)

Rump (2)	-	-	Internal Decomposition	68 lbs.
Silverside (2)	-	-	„ „	44 „
Topside (2)	-	-	„ „	44 „
Thick Flank	-	-	„ „	22 „
Top Bit and Rump	-	„	„	171 „
Buttock & Aitch Bone		„	„	56 „
				<hr/> 405 lbs.

Pork ; 2 Pieces Streaky			Decomposition-tending	10½ lbs.
1 piece Spare Rib	-	-	to putrefaction	2¼ „
4 Feet	-	-	„ „	4 „
1 Flare	-	-	„ „	1¼ „
				<hr/> 18 lbs.

Bacon, Gammon	{ Decomposition & }		15 „
Fore Hock	{ Maggot Infested }		21 „
Pigs Livers (Imported, frozen)	Decomposition		42 „

Sheep Livers (Imported, Frozen)	Extensive Tyrosin		
	Deposits & Mould		3,386 „
Sheep (2) Argentine	-	Mould & Decomposition	79 „
Lambs (2) Argentine	-	„ „	142 „

Sausages, Whalemeat	-	Decomposition	52 lbs.
Fish	-	„	47 „
Cooked	-	„	19 „
Beef	-	„	18 „
			<hr/> 136 lbs.

Chicken	-	-	Peritonitis	4 „
Meat Pies	-	-	Decomposition	6 „
Brawn	-	-	„	5 „

Dough (29 x 2lb. Dough Moulds	{ Glass Con- taminated }	58 „
Bread (8 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Loaves)		14 „
Peas - - -	Mite Infested	91 „
Lentils - - -	„	49 „
Peaches (dried) - -	„	25 „
Currants - -	„	12 „
Miscellaneous - -		10 „

Total	<hr/> 4,518 lbs. <hr/>
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		Salvaged by:—	
Totals		Ministry of Food	Corporation (pig food)
177 lbs.	Institutions and Schools		177 lbs.
3,939 „	Meat Depot - -	3,921 lbs.	
46½ „	British Railways - -		
348½ „	Shops - -	42¼ „	
7 „	Miscellaneous - -		
		3,963¼ lbs.	177 lbs.
Amount Destroyed		377¾ lbs.	
<u>4,518 lbs.</u>		<u>4,518 lbs.</u>	

The salvaged 3,921 lbs. of condemned unsound meat examined during control by the South Eastern Wholesale Meat Supply Association, was taken over by accredited agents, the meat being treated with green colouring matter prior to removal.

The 42¼ lbs. of other foodstuffs from shops, was salvaged through trade channels under direction of the Ministry of Food.

The 177 lbs. of foodstuffs salvaged by the Corporation for pig food, was made up mostly of unsound cereal foods.

Total weights of foodstuffs for the year :—

				tons	cwts.	lbs.
Food in Containers	-	-	-	-	14	30
Fish	-	-	-	-	12	64
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs	-	-	-	2	0	38
Total				3	7	20

				1945			1946			1947		
				tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Canned Foods	-	1	17	27	1	10	6	1	13	68		
Fish	-	1	2	77	1	6	81	1	6	106		
Miscellaneous	-		11	25		4	16		18	73		
Total	3	11	17	3	0	103	3	19	23			

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Number of Factories on Register :

Mechanical Factories	-	-	-	-	-	81
Non-mechanical Factories	-	-	-	-	-	27
						<u>108</u>

Number of Inspections :

Mechanical Factories (including 12 "Mechanical" Bake-houses)	-	-	-	-	-	34
Non-mechanical Factories (including 3 "Non-mechanical" Bakehouses)	-	-	-	-	-	7
Outworkers' premises	-	-	-	-	-	50
						<u>91</u>

Number of Notices Served	-	-	-	-	-	<u>2</u>
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During the year three references were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in regard to new or changed circumstances at 16 Factories.

Contraventions.

During the year one reference was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in regard to sanitary defects, i.e., "insufficient light to sanitary conveniences."

Contraventions have been abated at two mechanical factories as follows :—

- (A) Sanitary accommodation provided.
- (B) Sanitary convenience reconstructed.

In regard to one other factory, plans have been submitted and approved to provide sufficient and separate sanitary accommodation for the sexes.

Outworkers.

The half-yearly lists of outworkers supplied by Factories within the Borough in accordance with the requirements of the Factories Act, include 200 persons. Of this 200, 70 are resident within the Borough.

Lists supplied by other Local Authorities of outworkers employed by firms situate outside the Borough include 12 persons resident within the Borough.

The nature of the work carried out by the outworkers within the Borough is as follows :—

Wearing apparel 56; Brush workers 15; Envelope making 11.

No case of infectious disease has occurred at the outworkers premises.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The County Council are the authority for enforcing the provisions of the above Act. All complaints of infestations received were passed on to the County Pests Control Officer.

On the 12th June the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries held a one-day Film Exhibition dealing with "Rat Infestation." Co-operation was given by this Department in the general arrangements and publicizing of the Exhibition.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935.

Refuse Dumps (Section 26).

During 1947, consents were granted under the provisions of Section 26 of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, by the Corporation and the Hertfordshire County Council to the Southgate Borough Council to deposit "refuse and waste material which is not of an edible or putrescible character" in the Old Clay Pits near Hertingfordbury Station.

Tipping was commenced during the year and the Refuse Dump has been kept under observation.

Employment Agencies (Section 74).

There are only two Employment Agencies in the Borough registered with the County Council, a Domestic Agency and a Theatrical and Variety Direction Agency. The conduct and management of these agencies has been in accordance with Part V of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Total	A G E S						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - years	5 - years	15 - years	25 - years	over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	5	.....	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....
Erysipelas	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Enteric Fever	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....
Dysentery (Sonné)	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Acute primary Pneumonia	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Measles	134	9	65	56	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	37	5	14	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Para-Typhoid	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever -	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Measles -	6	1	.....	.....	12	51	45	17	2	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough -	5	9	8	11	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Pneumonia -	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas -	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaundice -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Puerperal Pyrexia -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	24	15	8	12	59
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	8	6	1	4	19
Cases restored to Register ...	1	—	—	—	1
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	1	—	1
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	3	1	1	—	5
Outward Transfers ...	—	3	—	—	3
Patients cured ...	2	1	—	—	3
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	28	16	9	16	69

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	16	67	1	—	1	11	5	101

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948) 101

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... 34

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised	16	71	128	131	147	283	172	948
Estimated mid-year population 1948	1171					2235		

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The whole of the district, except for under 2% of the houses, has a constant supply from public mains. The supply in nearly all cases is laid on direct to each house. There is a small number of houses served by standpipes, but during the year, thirteen houses formerly served in this way were provided with an internal water supply, six of these being as a result of Statutory Notices. There are approximately sixty houses in the district without mains supply, and these are mainly in the outlying or undeveloped parts of the district. In addition, there are twenty houses which derive their water from a private piped supply. One such supply to two houses was found to be from a shallow well, and as a result of unsatisfactory reports on the water, the owner has had a service pipe laid from the public main, but this has not yet been connected to the existing house services. Two cottages in the district rely on stored rainwater, no alternative means of supply being available. The owner of one of these cottages had a borehole sunk to a depth of thirty feet, but no water was found. One of the cottages is unoccupied and the future use of the two dwellings is still under consideration by the Council.

Main Supplies.

The Northern end of the district is served by the Metropolitan Water Board.

The Council's own water undertaking covers the remainder of the district, all the water being chlorinated and pumped into reservoirs prior to distribution through the mains. The supply was satisfactory in quantity. In December, 1948, samples taken from the Hoddesdon Urban District Council mains and submitted for bacteriological examination were reported as being unsatisfactory. This was found to be due to the fact that chlorine was not being discharged at the pumping water level in the well. The defective chlorine apparatus was rectified and the dosage increased. The system of testing the water for residual chlorine is now being strictly applied and there should be no recurrence of this trouble. Bacteriological samples are now being taken at least once a week, satisfactory results having since been received in each case. The results of the chemical and bacteriological samples taken in December would therefore appear to be those of raw water, which has apparently deteriorated in quality. It is not known to what extent this may be due to the lowering of the water table in this area. The Water Engineer has drawn the attention of the Ministry of Health to this matter, and monthly reports are being submitted to them. The Council have requested their Consulting Engineers and an expert Bacteriologist to investigate and report on their water undertakings in 1949. A total of thirteen bacteriological examinations and two chemical analyses were made during the year and details of the results of these examinations are given below.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days 22° C.	Plate Count 2 days 37° C.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37° C.	Remarks
28-1-48	231	10 per ml.	5 per ml.	Nil.	Satisfactory
17-3-48	663	9 per ml.	5 per ml.	"	"
26-5-48	1230	7 per ml.	4 per ml.	"	"
24-8-48	1967	8 per ml.	3 per ml.	"	"
27-10-48	2500	3 per ml.	Nil.	"	"
13-12-48	2903	Too many to count	230 per ml.	35 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory
17-12-48	2955	170 per ml.	37 per ml.	52 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory
21-12-48	C/MH/19	7 per ml. (20°C.)	1 per ml.	1 per ml. (1 day @ 37°C.)	Presumptive Coliform Reaction: Present in 10 ml. Absent from 1 ml. Bact. coli Type 1 : Unsatisfactory
20-12-48	2959	Too many to count	Too many to count	110 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory
20-12-48	2960	271 per ml.	90 per ml.	25 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory
22-12-48	2982	130 per ml.	70 per ml.	35 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory
23-12-48	C/MH/63	15 per ml. (20°C.)	18 per ml.	6 per ml. (1 day @ 37°C.)	Presumptive Coliform Reaction: Present in 20 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Bact. coli Type 1 : Present in 50 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Cl. welchii Reaction : Unsatisfactory Present in 100 ml. Absent from 10 ml.
23-11-48	C/MH/64	12 per ml. (20°C.)	8 per ml.	1 per ml. 1 day @ (37°C.)	Unsatisfactory Presumptive Coliform Reaction: Present in 20 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Bact. coli Type 1 : Present in 50 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Cl. welchii Reaction : Unsatisfactory Present in 100 ml. Absent from 10 ml.
28-12-48	C/MH/79	1 per ml. (20°C.)	1 per ml.	Nil (1 day @ 37°C.)	Cl. welchii Reaction : Present in 10 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Residual Chlorine : 0.30 parts per ml. Satisfactory
28-12-48	C/MH/80	5 per ml. (20°C.)	1 per ml.	Nil (1 day @ 37°C.)	Cl. welchii Reaction : Present in 100 ml. Absent from 10 ml. Residual Chlorine : 0.05 parts per ml. Satisfactory
30-12-48	3019	21 per ml.	5 per ml.	Nil.	Satisfactory

*Chemical Analysis (parts per million)**(1) Date Taken : 23/12/48**Appearance : Bright with a very slight mineral deposit**Turbidity : Less than 5 (Silica Scale)**Colour : Nil. Odour : Nil. Reaction pH : 7.2**Free Carbon Dioxide : 20. Electric Conductivity at 20°C : 620**Total Solids, dried at 180°C : 415. Chlorine in Chlorides : 29**Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate : 215**Hardness : Total 315. Carbonate (Temporary) 215**Non-Carbonate (Permanent) 100**Nitrogen in Nitrates : 7.2. Nitrogen in Nitrites : Less than 0.01**Free Ammonia : 0.004. Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C : 0.25**Albuminoid Ammonia : 0.014. Free Chlorine Reaction : Absent**Metals : Iron : Less than 0.03. Manganese : 0.05. Other metals absent**(2) Date taken : 23/12/48**Appearance : Bright with a very few particles of mineral debris**Turbidity : Less than 5 (Silica Scale)**Colour : Nil. Reaction pH : 7.3. Odour : Nil**Free Carbon Dioxide :— Electric Conductivity at 20°C : 610**Total Solids, dried at 180°C :—Chlorine in Chlorides : 29**Nitrogen in Nitrates : — Nitrogen in Nitrites : Less than 0.01**Free Ammonia : 0.000. Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C : 0.00**Albuminoid Ammonia : 0.016. Free Chlorine Reaction : Absent**Laboratory Report (in conjunction with Result of Bacteriological sample of same date)—*

“This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance since it carries only a trace of matter in suspension which microscopical examination showed to be due to mineral particles only. The water is neutral in reaction, very hard in character though not excessively so, contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from negligible traces of iron and manganese. It carries no significant content of organic matter but it shows bacterial impurity due to the presence of coliform organisms, while *Bact. coli* are present in small number and the *Clostridium Welchii* in minimal amount, these last two organisms being of excremental origin. The water is not, therefore, of the bacterial quality required for public supply purposes. The chemical characteristics of the water indicate that it would be readily amenable to treatment by the application of an efficient system of chlorination.”

Sanitary The defect in chlorine dosing apparatus had been
Inspector's located and corrected on the day after this sample was

Note : taken but before the report was received. Subsequent
 samples were satisfactory. The Laboratory report on the
 bacteriological sample taken on the 28th December, 1948,
 is given below :—

“This sample is clear and bright in appearance and of a high standard of bacterial purity consistent with a wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.”

“Although the period of contact is brief, application of chlorination may have modified the bacterial content and the sample may not, therefore, be representative of the raw water. The occurrence of the *Clostridium Welchii* Reaction—this organism resistant to chlorination though not harmful in itself—reflects the contaminated condition demonstrated in recent samples.”

Extension of Metropolitan Water Board Main Woollensbrook:

The amount of deficit paid by the Council to the Metropolitan Water Board on the guaranteed extension of their main in the Woollensbrook area, referred to in the Annual Report for 1947, for the year ended 30th April, 1948, was £21 17s 8d.

Private Supplies:

Four samples of water from private wells were submitted for bacteriological examination, three of these being satisfactory, and details of the results are given below.

Bacteriological Examination.

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days 22° C.	Plate Count 2 days 37° C.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37° C.	Remarks
17-3-48	662	10 per ml.	6 per ml.	Nil per 100 ml.	Satisfactory
17-3-48	664	16 per ml.	5 per ml.	Nil per 100 ml.	„
26-5-48	1232	9 per ml.	5 per ml.	Nil per 100 ml.	„
1-6-48	1270	720 per ml.	300 per ml.	8 per 100 ml.	Unsatisfactory

Factory Supplies:

A new borehole sunk in the chalk was brought into use during the year at one factory situated in Essex Road. The water was found to be of satisfactory purity and a Certificate as to the Source of Water Supply under Section 41 of the Factories Act, 1937, has been issued.

Details of the satisfactory results of three bacteriological examinations and one chemical analysis of samples of water taken from factory supplies during the year are given below.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days 22° C.	Plate Count 2 days 37° C.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37° C.	Remarks
12-1-48	C/WT/22	9 per ml. (20° C.)	Nil	Nil (1 day @ 37° C.)	Satisfactory
26-5-48	1231	40 per ml.	10 per ml.	Nil per 100 ml.	„
17-6-48	C/EN/88	850 per ml. (20° C.)	120 per ml.	Nil (1 day @ 37° C.)	„

*Chemical Analysis (Parts per million).**Date Taken* : 17-6-48.*Appearance* : Faint opalescence with a slight flocculent deposit consisting of ferruginous chalk particles*Turbidity* : 5 (Silica Scale).*Colour* : Slight yellow-brown. *Odour* : Nil. *Filtered* : Nil.*Reaction pH.* : Neutral 7.2.*Free Carbon Dioxide* : 20. *Electric Conductivity at 20° C.* : 530.*Total Solids, dried at 180° C.* : 355. *Chlorine in Chlorides* : 25.*Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate* : 215.*Hardness* : Total 245. Carbonate (Temporary) 215.

Non-carbonate (Permanent) 30.

Nitrogen in Nitrates : 2.8. *Nitrogen in Nitrites* : Approx. 0.01.*Free Ammonia* : 0.040. *Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.* : 0.40.*Albuminoid Ammonia* : 0.000. *Residual Chlorine* : —*Metals* : Iron : 0.70. Manganese : 0.03. Other metals absent.*Remarks* :

These results are consistent with a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

There was no alteration to the sewerage arrangements in the district during the year. Most of the district (except for houses in undeveloped and low-lying parts of the area) is sewered. Sewage disposal works consisting of detritus, settling tanks, contact beds, and percolating filters serve the old urban area. Sewage from Broxbourne and Wormley is disposed of by broad irrigation at the Sewage Farms, after passing through screening and precipitation tanks.

Thrift Cottage, Ware Road, Hailey, which was formerly served by a cesspool, was connected to the Council's sewer during the year.

Statutory Notices were served in respect of six houses, Nos. 2—12, Burford Street, Hoddesdon, under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and sinks were provided in each house.

Negotiations are proceeding with the owner to provide sinks and drains to a further eight houses in Lord Street, Hoddesdon.

Public Cleansing.

The Council decided that as from 1st July, 1948, no cesspools would be emptied free of charge within an area in proximity to the public sewers as shown on a map available for inspection at the Council Offices. The cleansing of cesspools (other than those attached to industrial premises) in the remainder of the district would be carried out at six-monthly intervals on request.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Household refuse is collected once a fortnight. It is disposed of by controlled tipping in a disused gravel pit in Rye Road, Hoddesdon. Complaints regarding the prevalence of flies and crickets in the vicinity have necessitated treatment with Tip Dressing and preparations containing D.D.T. and Gammexane. The nuisance from crickets was not extensive and was brought under control before it became serious. It is anticipated that this pit will be filled in before the end of 1949. and a site further removed from dwelling houses is being sought.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK during the Year 1949.

The following inspections have been made and the following notices served :—

Dwelling houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	439
Housing, re-inspections, works in progress and interviews with Owners and Builders	1281
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	6
Inspection of Cowsheds	27
Inspection of Dairies and Milkshops	41
Inspection of Stables and Pig-Sties	13
Inspection of Butchers' Shops	21
Inspection of Bakehouses	13
Ice Cream Premises	10
Visits to other premises where food is prepared and/or exposed for sale	40
Market Inspections	4
Refuse Tip Inspections	189
Investigation of Complaints other than Housing	40
Inspection of Factories	134
Inspection of Camping Grounds and Caravans	18
Miscellaneous Inspections	227
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	2503

Complaints received	197
Number of letters sent	622
Number of Informal Notices served	116
Number of Statutory Notices served	37

DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements.

Drains Tested	41
Drains provided, improved, relaid or repaired	37
Drains cleared	21
Improvements to Soil Pipes, Vent. Shafts, Inspection Chambers, etc.	32
Baths, Sinks and Basins provided	22
Waste Pipes, provided, improved and trapped	14
New W.C.'s provided	23
New Pans and Traps provided to W.C.'s	44
New Flushing Cisterns provided to W.C.'s	23
W.C. Flushing Cisterns repaired	7
Urinals provided	1
W.C.'s repaired	31
Dustbins provided	27
Disused Wells and Cesspools filled in	3
Yard Paving provided or repaired	2
Roofs, Gutters and Rainwater Pipes repaired	69
External Walls repaired	17
Chimney Stacks repaired	15
Firegrates provided or repaired	16
Damp-proof Courses provided	1
Dampness remedied	4

Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	23
Floors ventilated	...	...	...	...	3
Rooms—Walls and Ceilings repaired and redecorated	...	...	...	...	131
Windows and Doors provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	40
External Window sills repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	3
Washing Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Offensive Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	8
Food Stores provided	...	...	...	...	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Public Health Act, 1936 : Statutory Notices.

A Statutory Notice was served upon the owner under Section 44 of the above Act to take down and rebuild a dangerous and dilapidated W.C. building at 51, Lord Street, Hoddesdon. The work was carried out by the Council in default and the cost recovered.

A Statutory Notice under Section 45 to repair a defective W.C. at another property was served on the owner and the defect remedied.

Three Statutory Notices were served under Section 93 to remedy nuisances arising from structural defects to dwelling houses. One other Notice under the same Section was served upon the occupier of a shack to discontinue its use for human habitation, and resulted in successful Court proceedings being taken in 1949.

Statutory Notices under Sections 39 and 138 were served on the owner of six dwelling houses in Burford Street, Hoddesdon, to provide an internal water supply and sink to each house. The requirements of the Notices were complied with.

Nineteen Statutory Notices were served under Section 75 for the provision of dustbins at various addresses in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

During the year, seven houses were treated for bug infestation, including three Council Houses. The same method of disinfection was followed as in previous years. In addition, the furniture and effects of three families moving into Council Houses were fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas.

Disinfections.

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious diseases (including Tuberculosis) in twenty-two dwelling houses.

Public Conveniences.

The Council have agreed to a scheme for increasing and improving the sanitary accommodation at the Public Conveniences at the Clock House, Hoddesdon. It is hoped that work will be put in hand in 1949.

Negotiations are proceeding with the Epping Rural District Council as to the provision of a Public Convenience in the vicinity of the Crown Bridge over the River Lee at Broxbourne, which during the summer months is visited by large numbers of people.

Scabies.

Arrangements were made for the treatment of 31 cases of Scabies during the year at the former First Aid Post. The Cheshunt Urban District Council requested this Authority to treat cases of Scabies on their behalf. The Council agreed to undertake this work. the cost of treatment being reimbursed.

The total of 31 cases treated for Scabies during the year are as follows:—

<i>Children under 15 years of age :</i>	<i>Boys, 8</i>	<i>Girls, 14</i>	<i>Total, 22</i>
<i>Adults :</i>	<i>Men, 6</i>	<i>Women, 3</i>	<i>Total, 9</i>
			<u><i>Total, 31</i></u>

HOUSING ACTS.

Demolition Orders.

No Demolition or Closing Orders were served during the year.

Housing Act, 1936 : Overcrowding.

During the year, Overcrowding was abated in six Council Houses and eighteen privately owned houses, mainly through the allocation of new permanent houses. In addition, overcrowding in *one* other house has been partially relieved.

Twenty-three cases of Overcrowding, which included sixteen cases in Council Houses, were noted during the year.

Housing Progress.

During the year, *forty-eight* new houses were completed, including 37 Council Houses, and 11 Private Enterprise. In addition, accommodation was made available for three families by conversion of existing buildings. Four requisitioned properties were in use for housing purposes.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Milk and Dairies.

Number of Registered Producers	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk by round from outside the district	...	...	...	...	4

The Cowsheds and Dairies have been frequently inspected and a total of 68 visits has been made.

Applications were made by one farmer to use premises for Cowsheds which were considered to be unsuitable and the applications were refused.

One Dairy, which was inadequate, was discontinued during the year. Larger premises were acquired, altered and improved, and brought into use.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938 :

Retail licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	4
Supplementary retailers licences in respect of Accredited Milk	... ..	0
Supplementary retailers licences in respect of Pasteurised Milk	... ..	2
Supplementary retailers licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	... ..	2

Milk Sampling :

Regular sampling of milk from producers in the district and of supplies to schools is undertaken by Officers of the County Council. The results obtained did not necessitate any follow-up action by the Hoddesdon Council.

Goats' Milk.

In December, a sample of goats' milk on sale to the public, in waxed cartons, was sent for bacteriological examination. The milk was reported as containing Coliform bacilli in three out of three tubes inoculated with 1/100 ml., and was de-colourised at the end at 25 minutes under the Methylene Blue Test.

An inspection of the smallholding where the goats' milk was produced was the subject of a special report to the Council in January, 1949.

A subsequent sample showed some improvement, but the owner ceased to sell the goats' milk by retail, it being sent away for manufacture into cheese, the Health Authorities for that district being notified.

Although it is not a propitious moment to urge the necessity for more controls, there should be some strengthening of the existing law to cover the production, handling and sale of goats' milk for human consumption, particularly where this is carried on on a large scale. The Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders apply to cows' milk only, and there is no specific mention of goats' milk in the present law. It is hoped that this defect will be made good in the not too distant future.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938: Ice Cream.

There are 30 licensed retailers and one manufacturer registered with the Council. In addition, 13 retailers from outside the district have applied for registration with the Council to sell ice cream in Hoddesdon Market, although only one attends regularly.

Ten visits were made to ice cream premises during the year.

Facilities for the bacteriological examination of ice cream samples are still not available at the Public Health Laboratory at Hertford. The nearest laboratories are at Cambridge or Luton.

Other Food Premises.

Visits paid to food premises during the year amount to seventy-four.

Slaughterhouses.

Number of slaughterhouses in the district - - - 4

As a consequence of the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Orders, the four slaughterhouses in the district cease to be used.

Unsound Food.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered:—

Canned Foodstuffs.

Corned Beef	...	54	containers	...	Approx. weight	240	lbs.
Corned Mutton	...	12	"	...	"	72	"
Meat Products	...	32	"	...	"	31½	"
Soups, Stews, etc....	...	9	"	...	"	7½	"
Milk	...	28	"	...	"	26¼	"
Fish	...	34	"	...	"	13¼	"
Fruit	...	22	"	...	"	32	"
Vegetables	...	42	"	...	"	44½	"
Chocolate Spread...	...	1	"	...	"	1	"
						4 cwt. 20 lbs.	

Fish.

Herrings	...	...	...	...	Approx. weight	49	lbs.
Cod	...	...	...	...	"	84	"
Kippers	...	...	...	...	"	160	"
Prawns	...	...	...	...	"	36	"
						2 cwt. 105 lbs.	

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Beef	...	...	...	...	Approx. weight	7½	lbs.
Pearl Barley	...	...	...	...	"	20	"
Blue Peas	...	...	...	...	"	23	"
Dried Egg	...	...	...	...	"	10	"
Haricot Beans	...	...	...	...	"	193	"
Macaroni Rice Slips	...	...	...	...	"	21	"
Tomato Sauce	...	...	...	...	"	4½	"
Tea	...	...	...	...	"	6	"
Dried Milk	...	...	...	...	"	15	"
						2 cwt. 76 lbs.	

Total Weight of all Foodstuffs 9 cwt. 89 lbs.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

One-hundred-and-forty-seven visits and inspections were made during the year.

During the year, one existing factory was provided with separate W.C. accommodation and connected to the sewer. An additional W.C. was provided at another factory and additional sanitary accommodation for females was provided in two other instances. These improvements were effected as a result of informal action.

RATS & MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The County Council are the authority for enforcing the provisions of the above Act, and during the year some forty-five complaints were received and passed on to the County Pests Control Officer. The Hertfordshire County Council approached this Council on the question of delegation of their powers under the above Act. The Council intimated their willingness to accept delegation of duties.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935.

Moveable Dwellings. (Section 93).

A survey has been made of shacks, caravans and other moveable dwellings placed on land adjoining Slipe Lane, Wormley, where there are no proper services, such as sewers or water supplies.

It was hoped that this type of development could be controlled as undesirable form of land use under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. If this does not prove to be the case, the existing Public Health Law will have to be invoked.

Refuse Dumps. (Section 26).

Ware Rural District Council's Tip, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon.

This tip was found to be on fire and gave rise to many complaints of malodorous fumes. After somewhat protracted negotiations, efforts were made to extinguish the fire, and new deposits of household refuse were made on part of the tip away from the fire. Refuse is now being deposited in shallow layers and well covered, and the nuisance was abated.

Disused Gravel Pit, Cripplegate Fields, Wormley.

Early in 1948, it was found that this pit was being used for the deposit of waste material (chiefly from nurseries) brought in from outside the Council's area. No application for consent under the provisions of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, had been made by the owners. This tip subsequently became on fire which fortunately burnt itself out after a time. Consent was eventually given by the Hertfordshire County Council and this Council under the usual conditions and the deposit of refuse is now being made in shallow layers.

Gravel Pit, Church Lane, Wormley.

During the year, consent was given to the Edmonton Borough Council to deposit destructor screenings and destructor clinker at this pit. This consent was given under Section 26 of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, by the Hertfordshire County Council and the Urban District Council. Serious trouble from crickets was experienced during the summer, and treatment with gammexane proved effective in controlling the pest. Deposits are now being made in shallow layers and controlled tipping methods are employed. The Edmonton Council have also agreed to co-operate by covering destructor screenings whilst in transit, so as not to cause offence or injury to health, and during hot weather to treat these screenings with an insecticide at the destructor before being transported to Wormley.

Refuse Tip, Old Nazeing Road, Broxbourne.

No cause for complaint was found at this tip during the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Total	A G E S						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - years	5 - years	15 - years	25 - years	over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Scarlet Fever	9	.....	2	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....
Erysipelas	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Dysentery (Sonné)	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute primary Pneumonia	3	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	29	2	19	7	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	48	4	17	24	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	3	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Para-Typhoid	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever -	4	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2
Measles -	1	.....	2	2	3	7	12	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough -	11	6	8	6	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	6	8
Acute Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia -	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Infective Hepititice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	48	27	11	10	96
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	5	6	—	1	12
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers ...	—	1	—	3	4
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—
Outward Transfers ...	—	2	—	1	3
Patients cured ...	3	1	1	—	5
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	50	31	10	13	104

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	—	63	24	5	1	3	—	96

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948 } 96

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... } 35

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised	—	67	185	145	160	565	885	2007
Estimated mid-year population 1948	1061					1801		

INSULIN.

During the period 1/1/48 to 5/7/48, four persons were supplied with Insulin free of cost.

Two persons were supplied at half-cost.

WARE URBAN DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

Area of Supply. The statutory area of supply of the Urban Council co-incides with the old Urban District before the last extension of boundaries, the remainder of the Urban District falling within the statutory limits of the Metropolitan Water Board. By agreement with the Board, however, the Urban Council supplies water within the M.W.B. area of supply to all developed areas except Highfields, which is supplied direct by the M.W.B.

It is estimated that only 0.6% of the properties in the district are not connected to a main water supply.

Sources of Supply. Water is obtained from two wells, one at Musley Lane and the other at Musley Hill, the former being the main source of supply.

The Musley Lane well (Lower Waterworks) is 7ft. 0in. diameter for a depth of 60ft. 0in., lined with cast iron segments, below which is a 36in. borehole 40ft. 0in. deep.

The Musley Hill well (Upper Waterworks) is 7ft. 0in. diameter for a depth of 136ft. 0in., lined with brick, below which is a 24ft. borehole 30ft. 0in. deep.

Both are in chalk.

Pumping Stations.

The Musley Lane Station is provided with a duplicate set of 36 h.p. Harland Vertical Spindle Motors and Borehole Pumps, each capable of pumping 27,000 gallons per hour.

Water is pumped into the water tower which overflows into the reservoir.

The Station is provided with Electroflo metering and recording equipment for pumps, well water levels and water tower and reservoir levels. The Station is automatic.

The Musley Hill Station is provided with one Harland Vertical Spindle Motor and Pump capable of pumping 10,700 gallons per hour.

Water is pumped into the reservoir, and the Station is automatic.

Although the Water Tower supply is known as the High Level and the Reservoir supply as the Low Level, the two are not separate so far as source of supply is concerned, in that the Water Tower overflows into the reservoir.

The Musley Hill Station has been recently provided with Electroflo metering and recording equipment for the pump, but not for the well water level.

The Musley Hill Station was not used during the year 1948, partly due to the electricity load-spreading arrangements, and partly because the installation of metering equipment was awaited.

Chlorination is carried out at both Stations, at Musley Lane into the well, and at Musley Hill into the pumping main.

Analyses.—Routine monthly samples of water are taken for bacteriological examination and a summary of the results is appended.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Sample No.	Plant Count 3 days 22° C. per ml.	Plant Count 2 days 37° C. per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Remarks
<i>Low Level Supply :</i>					
5-1-48	24	6	3	Nil	Satisfactory
2-2-48	264	4	1	"	"
1-3-48	505	5	2	"	"
1-4-48	789	7	3	"	"
3-5-48	1038	5	2	"	"
1-6-48	1272	8	3	"	"
30-7-48	1816	7	3	"	"
1-9-48	2033	Nil	Nil	"	"
4-10-48	2249	6	2	"	"
1-11-48	2512	7	3	"	"
2-12-48	2788	12	Nil	"	"
<i>High Level Supply :</i>					
5-1-48	25	5	2	Nil	Satisfactory
2-2-48	265	5	2	"	"
1-3-48	504	7	3	"	"
1-4-48	788	5	2	"	"
3-5-48	1037	3	Nil	"	"
1-6-48	1273	6	2	"	"
2-7-48	1575	7	3	"	"
4-8-48	1817	7	3	"	"
1-9-48	2032	Nil	Nil	"	"
4-10-48	2248	10	4	"	"
1-11-48	2513	8	2	"	"
2-12-48	2787	13	1	"	"

Two chemical analyses were made of samples of water taken on the 6th October, 1948, one from the High Level Supply and one from the Low Level Supply.

The results were as follows :—

Chemical Examinations (parts per million)

	Low Level Supply			High Level Supply
Appearance	Bright with very few particles of mineral debris			Clear & bright
Turbidity (Silica Scale) ...	Less than 5			Nil
Colour	Nil			Nil
Odour	Nil			Nil
Reaction pH.	7.1			7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide ...	30			30
Elect. Conductivity at 20° C	610			610
Total Solids, dried at 180° C	410			410
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	24			24
Alkalinity at CaCo ₃	260			260
Hardness :	Total			330
	Temp.			260
	Perm.			70

		Low Level Supply	High Level Supply
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	...	5.4	5.6
Ditto Nitrites ...	...	Absent	Absent
Free Ammonia ...	...	0.000	0.006
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours 27°C		0.15	0.00
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	...	0.000	0.000
Residual Chlorine ...	...	Absent	0.05

Remarks: These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Practically the whole of the district is sewered, the whole of the flow from the area south of the river Lee entering the main sewer by means of an inverted syphon under the river.

It is hoped to proceed shortly with the preparation of a scheme for sewerage the proposed Industrial Site in the London Road area, including Red House Road, which latter is at present not sewered. Provision will be made in the scheme for the whole of the sewage from the area south of the river Lee to enter the outfall sewer to the south-east of the town.

Most of the old sewerage system is on the combined or partially separate system, with infiltration, and trouble is experienced with silting up of sewers and surcharging.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This is by means of land treatment, the sewage farm being situate at Rye House, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. of Ware, almost adjoining the Hoddesdon Urban District Boundary, and within the Ware Rural District. The area of the farm is 136 acres.

All sewage is pumped from Stanstead Abbots, including that of portions of the Ware Rural District, some of which joins the Urban sewers at the northern boundary of Ware and the remainder is pumped to the Stanstead Abbots Pumping Station.

Distribution of sewage at the farm is by means of overground concrete troughs, from which the flow of sewage can be discharged at various points as desired.

Much of the land is used for cropping, including potatoes and greenstuffs.

The drainage from the boundary ditches passes under the river Stort and enters the river Lee.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

A combined weekly collection of refuse and salvage is in operation, together with a separate weekly collection of waste paper from business and trade premises.

A small system of weekly collection of pig food is also in operation.

Refuse is disposed of at a controlled tip off Amwell End which is periodically dressed with appropriate tip dressing during the summer months as required.

Waste paper is baled.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK.

	<i>Summary of Visits.</i>	<i>Number</i>
Sewers and Drains	79
Public and Private Conveniences	15
Sanitary Accommodation and fittings...	53
Nuisances: House defects	87
„ Animals	86
„ Offensive accumulations	9
„ Watercourses	44
„ Tents, vans and sheds	4
„ Smoke	10
„ Verminous Premises and Articles	45
„ Verminous Persons	1
Infectious Disease	11
Housing Act, Improvement, repairs	30
„ Overcrowding	47
„ Sundry visits	9
Food Premises	56
Ice Cream Factories	17
„ Retailers	13
„ Sampling	44
„ Laboratory	14
Milk: Cowsheds and Dairies	16
„ Sampling	31
„ Laboratory	26
Slaughterhouse: Inspection of Meat	260
„ Laboratory	5
„ Complaints	1
Rats and Mice	14
Factories	11
		<hr/> 1038 <hr/>

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.*Sewers and Drains.*

<i>Sewers (Private)</i>	<i>Number</i>
Inspections, Repairs, New Work, Tests	31
<i>Drains</i>	
Inspections, Repairs, Tests	24
<i>Closet Accommodation</i>	
Inspections, Repairs, New Work	73
<i>Urinals</i>	
Public Inspections	10
Private Inspections	3
The abatement of a nuisance by the substitution of closet accommodation for a private urinal is pending.	
<i>Sanitary Fittings</i>	
Sinks provided with traps	5
Traps and waste pipes renewed	1
<i>Water Supply</i>	
Number of houses provided with internal water supply	4

Nuisances and Sundry Repairs

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	21
Walls cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	21
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	94
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	40

Keeping of Animals

Chickens and Rabbits well kept	...	...	...	...	3
Complaint made regarding manure of above (advice given as to cover and disposal)	...	...	...	...	3
Chicken houses moved to more suitable site	...	...	...	...	1
Pigsty moved to more suitable site	...	...	...	...	1
Council houses inspected	...	...	...	...	68

Remarks : Generally chicken houses, etc., on Council Housing Estates are of a very poor type, many being ramshackle affairs and kept in a most unsatisfactory manner. This is a problem which the Council are going to tackle at the first favourable opportunity.

*Filthy and Verminous Premises or Articles.**Houses inspected and no vermin found*

Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Privately owned houses	...	...	...	...	...	14

No verminous articles were destroyed or steam disinfected

*Insect Pests**Bugs*

Privately owned houses disinfected ("Thermatox" fumigators and "Zaldecide D.D.T.")	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Cockroaches

Houses fumigated with "Fumite" D.D.T.	1
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Flies

Houses sprayed with D.D.T. liquid	...	...	...	...	1
Houses sprayed with „ by Occupiers	...	...	...	...	2

Scabies

Cases received treatment at Cleansing Centre	2
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Head Lice, etc

Cases referred to District Nurse for treatment	2
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Welfare

Cases referred to District Nurse for advice	1
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Infectious Diseases

Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bedding Steam Disinfected (from one room)	...	...	...	...	...	1

Gravel Pit—nuisance due to tipping

A fly and cricket nuisance has been dealt with by suitable cover being provided to a large exposed face of a pit on which large numbers of food and other tin containers were tipped, and is now forbidden. "Gammexane" was also used during the process.

Watercourses—Nuisance

Bed of Bourne cleansed and obstructions removed	1
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Smoke Abatement

Negotiations are proceeding with one factory owner regarding smoke emission from one chimney.

Number of observations	7
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number

Undertakings not to re-let, cancelled (Sec. XI. (3)) 2

Case A.—An eight-roomed house was converted into two flats with separate kitchens having own sink and cooking accommodation, roofs, gutters, drains, external and internal wall surfaces, and all other necessary overhauls being executed.

Case B.—A four-roomed cottage largely of lath and plaster construction, was thoroughly overhauled, including roof, gutters, walls internally and externally, floor repairs, provision of internal water supply and sink, bath, and cooking accommodation.

Improvements effected by informal action

Sculleries constructed and provided with internal water supply and sink	4
Window area increased of living rooms and bedrooms (Number of rooms)	8
Plans prepared for above improvements	1

Overcrowding

No survey has been carried out, but the following particulars show that over 50% of the known cases of overcrowding have been abated by the Council rehousing seventeen families.

	Privately Owned.	Council Houses.	Total
Number of Overcrowded Houses on bedroom Standard (Sec. 136)	21	12	33
Number of cases abated by re-housing	12	5	17
Number of cases still overcrowded	9	7	16
Number of cases found <i>not</i> overcrowded, on bedroom Standard (Sect. 136)	1	2	3
Number of Overcrowded Houses on the Statutory Standard of Sect. 58	7	6	13

HOUSING PROGRESS.

Prior to the 1939-45 war, a total of 440 Council Houses and Bungalows had been erected. Up to the 1st January, 1948, this number had been increased by 34 permanent Council dwellings, making a total of 474, together with 13 Temporary Bungalows.

During 1948, 73 further permanent Council Houses were completed and occupied, the total number at the 31st December, 1948, being 547, plus 13 Temporary Bungalows. The 73 houses comprised mostly 3-bedroom types, with a proportion of houses with 4-bedrooms.

At the end of the year, a further 31 houses were under construction or contracts let, and the Council proposes to proceed with a further scheme of 60 houses at Catshill, comprising 3-bedroom and 2-bedroom types.

Nine Private Enterprise Houses were also completed during the year.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Meat Inspection.

	<i>Number.</i>
Number of visits to Slaughterhouse	260
Number of visits to Laboratory with Specimens ...	5

Weight of Meat Condemned in lbs.

Home Killed.

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	TOTAL
Diseased	35,052	889	2774	38,715
Internal decomposition ...	37	—	—	37

Imported.

Internal decomposition ...	61	—	—	61
Tinned (decomposed) ...	133	24	—	157

The statistical information required by Circular 3/49 relating to carcasses inspected and condemned covers the condemnation of whole carcasses only. The compilation of daily analysis sheets of all condemnations, including offals and parts of carcasses, has not been possible owing to the pressure of work.

	Cattle, excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	2353	710	942	3457	485
Number Inspected	2267	710	786	3015	468
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole Carcases condemned ..	4	6	9	5	14
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease	0.18	0.85	1.15	0.17	2.99
<i>Tuberculosis Only.</i>					
Whole Carcases condemned ...	3	5	—	—	2
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease	0.13	0.70	—	—	0.43

Other Foods.

The following foods were condemned, being unfit for human consumption. Some of the fish was used for pig food.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Defect</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Tinned Foods - -	Blown, Leakers, etc., No. 427 -	334
Packet Foods - -	Mouldy, Contaminated etc. -	28
Prunes - - - -	Stale, Mouldy, unmarketable -	17
Sugar - - - -	Contaminated - - - -	3
Manufactured Chocolate	Mites, stale - - - -	40
Oatmeal - - - -	Damp, stale - - - -	50
Soya flour - - -	Stale - - - -	6
Cheese - - - -	Contaminated - - - -	3
Fish, wet - - - -	Decomposition - - - -	238
Fish, smoked - -	" - - - -	207
Fish, shell - - -	" - - - -	114
Frozen Peas - - -	Mouldy - - - -	1752
		<u>2792</u>

Milk and Dairies.

Number of routine visits to cowsheds	-	-	-	-	2
Number of routine visits to dairies	-	-	-	-	14
Number of routine visits for sampling purposes	-	-	-	-	31
Number of routine visits to laboratory with samples	-	-	-	-	26

A large wholesale dairy in the district receives a considerable amount of supervision; and the amount of sampling by this and other Authorities has been considerable. The results of all samples taken within the Urban District and of those reported upon by other Authorities are given below.

Sampled by WARE U.D.C. %s to nearest figure	<i>"Tuberculin Tested" in churns sampled as received from Farms at 10 a.m. on morning of production or following evening production.</i>								
	Methylene Blue 4½ hours			Coliform Test			Official Result Judged on both Tests.		
	Pass	Fail	% Fail	Pass	Fail	% Fail	Pass	Fail	% Fail
Evening and Morning (Mixed)	4	1	20	1	4	80	1	4	80
Morning	53	12	18	46	19	29	41	24	37
TOTALS	57	13	18	47	23	33	42	28	40

"Pasteurised" Milk.

Sampled by	IN CHURNS.				IN BOTTLES.			
	Meth. Blue		Phos. Test		Meth. Blue		Phos. Test	
	½ hour		½ hour		½ hour		½ hour	
	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Ware U.D.C. At Wholesalers ...	22	Nil	38	Nil	—	—	—	—
Ware U.D.C. At Re- tailer's after bottling	—	—	—	—	2	Nil	2	Nil
Other L.A.'s at Retailers ...	—	—	—	—	19	1*	19	1*

"T.T. Pasteurised" Milk.

Sampled by	IN BOTTLES.			
	Meth. Blue		Phos. Test	
	½ hour		½ hour	
	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Ware U.D.C. At Wholesaler's ...	7	Nil	7	Nil
Ware U.D.C. At Retailer's after Bottling ...	—	—	—	—
Other L.A.'s at Retailers ...	7	Nil	7	Nil

The unsatisfactory samples marked * in the table above involved two samplings by different authorities. In both cases the milk was supplied in bulk and afterwards bottled by the retailer; and in so far as the unsatisfactory phosphatase reading, obtained in the one case, the retailer also handles raw milk. Whether there was any admixture of raw milk to pasteurised milk cannot be determined; but perhaps it is sufficient to say that the reading was 4 Lovibond units.

Two samples of "Pasteurised" milk processed outside the district conformed to the prescribed standards. One sample of "Accredited" milk produced within the area was found to be satisfactory. Two samples of "Ungraded" milk retailed by a producer within the district were examined; the first failing and the second passing the tests prescribed for "Accredited" milk.

The above tables show that raw "Tuberculin Tested" milk still falls short of the required standards; and pasteurisation no doubt saves a lot of this milk from souring in the summer months.

Ice Cream.

Number of Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	2
Number of premises registered under Section (14)	...	...	...	...	8

One manufacturer's output is of the order of 600 gallons daily. The premises were equipped with 1x200 gallon Holder Pasteuriser and recording and indicating thermometers, homogeniser, two stage covered cooler, 2 x 200 gallon vats, which are thermostatically controlled and 2 x 60 gallon per hour Vogt Freezers. An additional cold room has been constructed during the year. New equipment including a "Rose" cutting and wrapping machine will be in use during 1949 and many other improvements are contemplated.

During the year, 79 samples were examined with the following results:—

Ice Cream Samples.

Pasteuriser					Homogeniser					Cooler					Ageing Vats					Freezer									
Grade					Faecal Coli	Grade					Faecal Coli	Grade					Faecal Coli	Grade					Faecal Coli						
1	2	3	4	-	+	1	2	3	4	-	+	1	2	3	4	-	+	1	2	3	4	-	+						
7	1	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	11	3	-	-	9	1	4	4	4	-	5	2	9	13	18	3	10	7
% in each grade of final product taken from freezer																				2130427									
																				51									
% in each grade recommended by Advisory Committee																				503020-									
																				80									

These results are well below the recommendations made in the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to enquire into tests for the bacteriological grading of ice-cream. The most disturbing single factor is the presence of Faecal Coli. Steps are being taken in collaboration with the manufacturer to effect an improvement.

A small manufacturer has a holder pasteuriser which complies with ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations.

The results of samples taken at these premises follow:—

ICE CREAM	Grade			
	1	2	3	4
No. of Samples ...	6	3	1	-

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

[illegible]

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	17	6	13	7	43
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	8	0	3	1	12
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	3	—	2	—	5
Outward Transfers ...	2	—	3	—	5
Patients cured ...	1	2	—	—	3
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	19	4	11	8	42

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	11	41	3	—	2	5	—	62

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948 } 62

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... } 33

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5—15 1933-1943	Total
Number Immunised	11	46	79	145	159	1076	1516
Estimated mid-year population 1948	695					1289	

SAWBRIDGEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY.

A piped supply, provided by the Herts & Essex Water Company from their deep wells in Redrick Lane, serves 93% of the Urban District. The remaining 7%, comprising the village of Spelbrook, derives its water from a public shallow well fitted with a hand pump; and from several privately owned wells. A scheme to extend the water mains to Spelbrook has been approved and work is expected to begin during 1949.

The quality and quantity of both supplies of water has been satisfactory and results of monthly bacteriological examinations are given in Table A and B. The supplies are chlorinated, that from the Spelbrook Well being carried out once daily by hand.

Table A. Herts & Essex Water Co. Bacteriological Examinations

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days at 20° C. per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37° C. per ml.	Plate Count 1 day 37° C. per ml.	Remarks
23-2-48	C/AA/16	3	0	Absent	Satisfactory
24-3-48	C/AM/76	46	1	"	"
21-4-48	C/TE/54	0	0	"	"
27-5-48	C/EA/68	12	9	"	"
16-6-48	C/EN/61	12	0	"	"
28-7-48	C/RR/02	40	4	"	"

Table B. Spelbrook Well. Bacteriological Examinations

Date	Sample No.	Plant Count 3 days at 22° C. per ml.	Plant Count 2 days at 37° C. per ml.	Probable No. Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml. 2 days at 37° C.	Remarks
13-1-48	77	5	2	Nil	Satisfactory
11-2-48	362	5	2	"	"
16-3-48	661	5	3	"	"
14-4-48	882	7	3	"	"
18-5-48	1184	5	3	"	"
15-6-48	1390	7	3	"	"
13-7-48	1687	3	1	"	"
10-8-48	1857	6	3	"	"
14-9-48	2145	8	3	"	"
12-10-48	2331	6	2	"	"
9-11-48	2642	7	3	"	"
7-12-48	2829	12	3	"	"

Owing to the satisfactory results, chlorine dosage of the Spelbrook Well has been minimal. The waters are not plumbo-solvent.

Dwelling houses supplied internally from public mains ... 928

" " " by means of stand pipes ... 52

Premises (including dwelling houses) in Spelbrook utilising public well... ... 70

Total ... 1050

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE and SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Estimated population served by main drainage ... 3400.

The sewer was extended to one existing house and private drains repaired at one cottage.

Separate water closets and sinks were installed at 39 hutments on the Parsonage Estate (formerly Sawbridgeworth Aerodrome).

There are two separate sewage disposal works. At the principal works, disposal is by the sedimentation, septic tank and bacterial bed process, which discharges a purified effluent into the river Stort. The estimated capacity of this works is 120,000 gallons daily, and the estimated dry weather flow is 112,000 gallons per day.

The South sewage disposal works consists of two septic tanks and land irrigation, with an estimated capacity of 12,000 gallons daily and an estimated dry weather flow of 9,000 gallons per day.

There are five small sewage pumping stations in the district, two of which are privately owned.

Approximately 95 houses (9%) in Sawbridgeworth use cesspools or other conservancy systems.

REFUSE COLLECTION and DISPOSAL.

The standard of refuse collection was improved by using a covered collecting vehicle in place of an open truck.

A weekly collection was made from two schools, a nursing home, the Parsonage Estate and several large premises by arrangement. The refuse from dwelling houses was collected fortnightly.

By arrangement with the Braughing Rural District Council, refuse from the hutments at High Wych Camp (adjoining Parsonage Estate) was also collected fortnightly.

Controlled tipping of refuse is carried out on a site adjoining the principal sewage works. The average weekly collection is sixty cubic yards (approximately 20 tons) plus half-a-ton of paper. The present tipping site is expected to last another two years.

Tip dressing to control insect pests was applied when necessary, and rodent control was carried out by the Hertfordshire County Council. No serious infestations have occurred.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS for the Year ending 31st December, 1948.

Inspections.

Dwelling Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	19
Dwelling Houses condemned	...	...	...	...	1
Re-inspections and visits to dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	18
General Inspections	...	...	...	...	36
General Inspections (5 squatters sites)	...	...	...	...	58
Visits re cases of Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	1
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	1
Complaints investigated (and settled)	...	...	...	...	4
Inspections re Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	8
Food Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	18
Water and Ice Cream samples taken	...	...	...	...	15
Number of visits to shops for condemning food	...	...	...	...	11
Factory Inspections and Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	49
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	...	...	...	...	4
TOTAL INSPECTIONS					<u>243</u>

Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	38
Number of complaints passed to other Departments for attention	...	...	...	14

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Prevention of Nuisances.

One overflowing cesspool was detected and is receiving attention.

Several applications concerning the keeping of pigs (allowed under Defence Regulations) were investigated and advice given.

No statutory notices were served under this heading.

HOUSING and HOUSING PROGRESS.

A demolition order was issued by the Council in October, 1948 under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of one dwelling house, requiring that the premises be vacated within six months and demolished within six weeks of vacation.

Houses erected by 31st December, 1948.

Local Authority.

Permanent Houses erected	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
War Destroyed Houses rebuilt	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Temporary Houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
							<u>45</u>

Sawbridgeworth Aerodrome.

Number of hutments converted and occupied	-	-	65
Number of families living in unconverted premises	-	-	9
			<u>74</u>

Private Enterprise.

Houses erected	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
War Destroyed Houses rebuilt	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
							<u>22</u>

MEAT, FOODS, & FOOD PREMISES.

Slaughterhouses.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district. One application for renewal of the licence of a formerly registered slaughterhouse was refused by the Council under Section 57 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, because of contravention of Part II of the Meat Regulations, and Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act.

Milk.

Milk is supplied in bulk to a single local depot. All grades of designated milk are available.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream is manufactured by the Cold Mix Process at one premises. Periodic samples were taken, with the following results:—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Methylene Blue Decolourised</i>	<i>Grade</i>
18-8-48	1/18519	After 3 hours	2
8-9-48	2/21241	After 3 hours	2
8-11-48	3/26860	Not decolourised after 4 hours	1

Unsound Food.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered:—

<i>Category</i>	<i>No. of Tins or Containers</i>	<i>Weight</i>	
		<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Meat (tinned or potted)	9	7	3
Fish (tinned)	27	30	5½
Milk (tinned)	23	22	4½
Vegetables & Soups (tinned)	55	90	6½
Butter and margarine		1	12
Cheese		40	—
Sugar		84	—
Bacon		41	—
Kippers		84	—
Eggs	32	6	—
		<u>406</u>	<u>15½</u>

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

There are 39 premises on the register and 49 inspections were made (see table at beginning of Combined Districts Report). Only one unsatisfactory premises was discovered and an informal notice was served. This was in respect of a basement bakehouse. Steps are being taken by the owner to place the bakehouse outside the definition of "basement," by excavation of a quantity of earth.

One other premises was dealt with as regards means of escape from fire.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

[illegible]

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	—	6	1	3	10
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers ...	—	1	—	—	1
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	—	—	—	1	1
Outward Transfers ...	—	—	—	—	—
Patients cured ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	—	7	1	2	10

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	1	3	5	5	4	4	5	27

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948 } 27

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... } 31

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5—15 1933-1943	Total
Number Immunised	1	4	29	31	40	435	540
Estimated mid-year population 1948	299					525	

WARE RURAL DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The main water supply is obtained from two boreholes, 450 feet deep at the Pumping Station at Puckeridge. The water is pumped to a tower at Old Hall Green. The Metropolitan Water Board area of supply includes the Parishes of Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets. Apart from these Parishes, the mains of the R.D.C. pass through each Parish. The water is hard and of good bacteriological standard. The water is chlorinated. Samples have been taken from time to time from the piped supply and bacteriological examinations made have shown the water to be satisfactory. The sufficiency is not in doubt. Over three-quarters of the total dwelling houses in the district have a piped supply. Seventy-one new connections were made in 1948.

Of the private supplies throughout the district, approximately two-thirds are deep wells or boreholes and one-third are shallow wells.

WATER SAMPLES.

Bacteriological Examinations of Private Water Supplies

Date	Sample No.	Plant Count 3 days 22° C. per ml.	Plant Count 2 days 37° C. per ml.	Probable No. Coliform Bacillus 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Remarks
15-1-40	538	Too many to count	480	90	B. <i>Pyocyaneus</i> present— Unsatisfactory
15-4-48	539	22	9	Nil	Satisfactory
15-4-48	540	300	80	„	B. <i>Pyocyaneus</i> present— Unsatisfactory
16-15-48	541	90	43	8	Unsatisfactory
16-5-48	542	46	22	Nil	Satisfactory
20-6-48	543	7	2	„	„
20-6-48	544	8	3	„	„
13-8-48	545	7	3	„	„
30-9-48	546	460	160	8	B. <i>Pyocyaneus</i> present— Unsatisfactory
20-10-48	547	33	12	3	„

All the premises with an unsatisfactory supply have now been connected to the Council's main with the exception of No. 547, which will be connected shortly.

Bacteriological Examination of Public Water Supply

22-6-48	620	5	2	Nil	Satisfactory before chlorination
22-6-48	621	7	3	Nil	Satisfactory after chlorination

Chemical Analyses—Public Water Supply

Date 8.1.48	Parts per 100,000	Grains per gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	43.0	30.1
Combined chlorine (Cl)	1.8	1.3
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (Na Cl)	3.0	2.1
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.28	0.20
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.0007	0.0005
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.0012	0.0008
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equiv. to Ca CO ₃)	28.0	19.6
Permanent " (" " " ")	4.0	2.8
Total " (" " " ")	32.0	22.4

The above results show this water to be of good quality and quite safe for drinking purposes.

The water is hard, the hardness being mainly "temporary" in nature.

Date 8.12.48	Parts per 100,000	Grains per gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	39.0	27.3
Combined chlorine (Cl)	1.7	1.2
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (Na Cl)	2.8	2.0
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.30	0.21
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.005	0.004
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equiv. to Ca CO ₃)	30.0	21.0
Permanent " (" " " ")	4.0	2.8
Total " (" " " ")	34.0	23.8

The above results show this water to be of a high degree of organic purity and quite safe for drinking purposes.

The water is very hard, the hardness being mainly "temporary" in nature.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.

Standon and Puckeridge are sewered and gravitate to a pumping station in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to a disposal works south of the village.

High Cross and Wadesmill, Great Amwell, St. Margarets and Stanstead Abbots are drained to pumping stations from which the sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District sewers.

Part of the village of Hertford Heath is in the Great Amwell Parish and is sewered by agreement to disposal works in the Hertford Rural District.

During the year, the Council obtained from the Ministry of Works a redundant sewage disposal works at the R.A.F. Station, Hunsdon. These works were put into repair and adapted to take sewage from dispersed sites which were converted for housing accommodation.

It is intended to commence work shortly upon a new sewer through Hunsdon Village to Widford Rise. This work is anticipated to be well in hand during 1949. An old drain in Hunsdon village will be abandoned and the properties using this connected to the new sewer.

The scheme for sewerage Wareside, Widford, and parts of the Braughing Rural District is receiving the consideration of the Ministry of Health. It was anticipated that Hunsdon would be included in this scheme, but the village has been provided for otherwise as indicated above.

Seventy-six sewer connections were made during 1948.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Cesspools for private residents were emptied twice per year free of charge and other occasions by request at cost. There are over 400 cesspools in the area. Pails are emptied twice a week from cottages not connected with the sewer. House refuse is collected weekly in a covered conveyance and disposed of by tipping at Standon and St. Margarets.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK during the Year 1948.

Inspections.

Rural Housing Survey,		Ice Cream Premises ...	65
Houses Inspected...	860	Bakehouses ...	20
Complaints ...	143	Factories ...	42
Infectious Diseases ...	12	Knackers Yard ...	24
Food Premises ...	170	Refuse Tips ...	58
Drainage ...	217	Caravans ...	34
Water Supply ...	214	Rats and Mice ...	17
Schools ...	17	Miscellaneous ...	95
Cowsheds and Dairies...	47	Total ...	<u>2035</u>

HOUSING.

Rural Housing Survey.

Inspection of the 2098 cottages in the District was commenced in February, 1947, and 860 houses were inspected during the year making the total to date 1,591.

Housing Progress.

Houses built by Private Enterprise	...	...	4
Houses built by Local Authority	...	...	78
as follows:—			
Type 1	...	Airey Houses	24
„ 2	22	Bungalows	2
„ 3	22		
Temporary Dwellings and Conversions	...		45

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered:—

5 st. Various Fish	65 tins of Food (including
2 lbs. Bacon	Meat, Pilchards, Salmon,
104 lbs. Beef	Sardines, Beans, Peas,
80 lbs. Tea	Soup, Jams, Milk, etc.)
20 lbs. Pork Sausage	approximately 37 lbs.
20 lbs. Dried Milk Powder	520 lbs. Various farena-
	foods (Biscuit Meal Soya
	Flour, etc.)

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

[illegible]

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
among the different Parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whoop- ing Ch.	Acute P.M.	Pneu- monia	Cerebro- Spinal M.
Eastwick
Gilston	2	1	.....	.....
Great Amwell	2	7	2	.....	.....	.....
Great Munden	1	2	2	.....	1	.....
Little Munden	1	9	.....	.....	.....
Hunsdon	3	.....	.....	1	.....
Standon	3	27	.....	5	.....
Stanstead Abbotts } 2	8	7	.....	.....	.....	.....
„ Easneye (L.C.C. Home) } 3
St. Margarets } 12
„ St. Margaretsbury (Childrens } Short Stay Home) } 12
Thundridge.....	1	2	.....	.....
Ware Rural } 1
„ Roundhouse (Herts C.C. } Childrens Nursery) } 9
Widford	1	1	.....	.....	.....

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	14	20	12	15	61
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	5	1	1	2	9
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	1	—	1
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—
Outward Transfers ...	—	1	—	—	1
Patients cured ...	5	4	5	6	20
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	14	16	9	11	50

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	15	35	—	3	1	4	—	58

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948 } 58

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... } 8

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5—15 1933-1943	Total
Number Immunised	15	47	61	93	96	1112	1424
Estimated mid-year population 1948	880					1408	

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The northern parishes are supplied from Chipping Pumping Station. For the rest of the District a bulk supply is obtained from Ware R.D.C., and at High Wych supply is given by the Herts & Essex Waterworks Co. Ltd.

During the year the water main was extended from Bury Green to Cradle End, Little Hadham, the work being done by direct labour.

Sixteen public standpipes have been withdrawn from service as service pipes have been laid to houses formerly taking a supply from the standpipes. Work on laying service pipes has been retarded owing to shortage of galvanised water tubing.

Water Sampling.

Twelve samples of water were taken at Chipping Pumping Station for bacteriological examination, and in all cases the Analyst reported that the bacteriological examination was satisfactory.

One chemical analysis was made and the following report was received:

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

(1) *Date Taken* : 19/10/48

Appearance : Clear and bright

Turbidity : Nil. (Silica Scale)

Colour : Nil. *Odour* : Nil. *Reaction pH* : 6.9

Free Carbon Dioxide : 49. *Electric Conductivity at 20°C* : 560

Total Solids, dried at 180°C : 392. *Chlorine in Chlorides* : 25

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate : 270

Hardness : Total 320. Carbonate (Temporary) 270

Non-Carbonate (Permanent) 50

Nitrogen in Nitrates : 3.8. *Nitrogen in Nitrites* : Absent

Free Ammonia : 0.000 (as N) 0.000.

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C : 0.00

Albuminoid Ammonia : 0.000 (as N) 0.000

Metals : Absent

Report :—"This sample is clear and bright in appearance and free from iron and other metals. The water is practically neutral in reaction but it has a high content of free carbon dioxide and a corrosive tendency towards metals would therefore be anticipated although no plumbo-solvent action would occur."

The water is very hard in character though not excessively so and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis, these results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. Aeration to reduce the carbon dioxide and so restrain the corrosive tendencies would be advantageous."

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year, changes in the collection system has enabled each parish to receive one additional collection each year, making a total of 13 instead of 12. In the cases of Much Hadham and Buntingford, collections now number 26 each. Refuse continues to be disposed of by tipping at Buckland, Braughing, Much Hadham and Furneaux Pelham.

SALVAGE.

Total tonnage collected during the past year amounted to 35 tons. This mainly consisted of paper and tins.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS during the Year.

Inspection of Dwelling houses	990
Re-visits to 'outs' at time of initial visit	41
Inspections of Factories	61
" Offices	15
" Slaughterhouses	7
" Food Preservation Premises	7
Visits to Dairies & Cowhouses	57
" Bakehouses	6
" Butchers' Shops	7
" Fried Fish Shops... ..	4
Re-visits in connection with service of notices	283
Visits to Ice-cream Premises	56
" Investigate 3 cases of Food Poisoning	9
" Refuse Disposal Sites	28
" Premises infested with vermin	21
Visits in connection with refuse collection survey	211
" regarding complaints of nuisance from miscellaneous premises	32
Total	<u>1785</u>

HOUSING.

Further progress with the Rural Housing Survey has been made during the past year. To the 31st December, 1948, the total number of houses surveyed was 1621. These have been provisionally classified as follows:—

Category 1 ...	224	—	13.8%
Category 2 ...	290	—	17.9%
Category 3 ...	755	—	46.6%
Category 5 ...	352	—	21.7%

It is anticipated that the provisional classification of all houses included in the survey will be completed by June, 1949.

HOUSING PROGRESS.

During the year 133 permanent houses were completed.

Houses built by Private Owners ...	15
Houses built by Local Authority ...	118

At the end of the year there were 597 Council Houses occupied including 7 Old Peoples' Dwellings.

MILK SAMPLES.

(a) *Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests.*

Routine samples of milk taken during the year were analysed with the following results:—

Total Number of Samples taken (all grades).	Passed Prescribed Tests.	Failed to Pass Prescribed Tests.
131	62	69

(b) *Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacilli.*

Forty-two samples were taken on behalf of the County Council for Guinea-pig inoculation—all proved negative.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Total	A G E S						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - years	5 - years	15 - years	25 - years	over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	8	.....	1	1	6	.....	.....	.....	7	.....
Erysipelas	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery (Sonné)	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute primary Pneumonia	11	2	.....	3	1	3	1	1	.....	.....
Measles	21	.....	4	15	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	76	2	3	53	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....
Para-Typhoid	1*	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Food Poisoning	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	3	1

*Not confirmed.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

[illegible]

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK.

Three cases of food poisoning were notified in September, 1948. The details are summarised below.

1. *Food Causing Outbreak*—Unknown.
Agent Causing Outbreak—*Salmonella typhi-murium*.
2. *Cases forming Outbreak* which occurred from 13-9-48 to 1-10-48
 Total notified, 3; Total ascertained, 3; Fatal, 1.
3. *Clinical Features*—Average interval ingestion to onset=36 hours.
 Main symptoms: Malaise, Diarrhœa, Vomiting
 Severity: Considerable severity. One fatal (Case 1)
 Duration of Illness: 3 to 4 weeks.
4. *Results of Laboratory Investigations:*
Salmonella typhi-murium isolated from faeces in all three cases
 Case No. II, *Salmonella typhi-murium* present in faeces when patient discharged from hospital on 10-11-48
 Case No. III, *Salmonella typhi-murium* present in blood, Titre 1/400 on 11-10-48
Food Samples—None obtained—notifications received too late for action.
Miscellaneous Investigations—a mouse trapped on premises of Case No. III examined for *Salmonella typhi-murium* with negative results.
5. *Origin and Preparation of Food causing Illness.*
 No food samples obtained, but patient No. II states he ate some tinned corned beef (sold in slices), some days after it had been purchased. He shared the meal with his brother, Case No. I, who died. Others who ate similar slices of the corned beef when it was fresh were not affected—(statement of two neighbours and the butcher concerned), Case No. III had no direct contact with the others and gave no information regarding any food eaten.
6. *Place at which food causing Illness was consumed.*
 Cases I and II—at home.
 Case III—No information.
7. *Probable origin of Infection or Contamination of Food.*
 Contributory factors were poor standards of hygiene, associated with bucket sanitation and infestation with rats and mice.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
among the different Parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whoop- ing Ch.	Acute P.M.	Pneu- monia	Cerebro- Spinal M.
Albury	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Anstey	8	.....	.....	.....
Aspenden	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Braughing	1	25	.....	3	.....
Brent Pelham	1	4	.....	.....	.....
Broadfield
Buckland	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Buntingford	3	7	.....	2	.....
Cottered	3	.....	.....	.....
Furneaux Pelham
High Wych	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hormead
Little Hadham	1	3	1	1	.....
Meesden	3	.....	.....	.....
Much Hadham	4	11	.....	3	.....
Stocking Pelham	1	.....	.....	.....
Thorley
Throcking	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Westmill	1	3	.....	1	.....
Wyddial	3	.....	.....	.....
Yardley	2	.....	.....	.....

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	16	7	10	10	43
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	5	5	—	—	10
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	1	2	—	—	3
Outward Transfers ...	2	1	—	—	3
Patients cured ...	—	—	—	1	1
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	18	9	10	9	46

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	19	46	3	1	1	—	—	70

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948 } 70

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... } 75

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised	19	48	53	68	57	425	366	1036
Estimated mid-year population 1948	810					1672		

HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

WATER.

Piped supplies have been taken into 12 houses which formerly relied on public standpipes or wells.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

House refuse was collected fortnightly throughout the district and disposed of by tipping at Stevenage and Hertingfordbury. Direct labour was employed for this purpose.

Cesspool Emptying.

The Council maintains a service for the emptying of cesspools at private houses, four loads on not more than two visits being removed annually free of charge, upon written application by the owner or occupier. Charges are made in respect of additional emptyings. 325 Cesspools were emptied during the year, a total of 2,739 loads being removed.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS and INSPECTIONS during the Year 1948.

Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey	...	...	...	1106
" " " re-visits	...	...	...	35
Housing, other than Hobhouse...	...	...	...	3
Public Health	...	...	...	72
" re-visits	...	...	...	112
Sewage Disposal Works	...	...	...	51
Cowsheds and Dairies...	...	...	...	97
Waterworks	...	...	...	37
Foodshops	...	...	...	5
Scavenging	...	...	...	6
Water Supply	...	...	...	28
Disinfections...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouse Inspections	...	...	...	2
Petrol Stores...	...	...	...	7
Overcrowding	...	...	...	1
Visits re Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	95
Total	...	...	...	<u>1,665</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Disinfestation was carried out at two houses infested by bugs. An insecticide containing D.D.T. proved effective.

Disinfection, following the removal of a case of Tuberculosis to hospital was carried out at one house.

Four W.C.'s were substituted for pail closets; sinks were provided in four houses and baths in five houses previously without them.

In addition to the above, at a number of the older Council houses indoor water supply, baths and W.C.'s were provided as follows:—

Birch Green ... 14 houses. Walkern ... 18 houses.

HOUSING.

Inspection of 1106 of the 2410 dwellings in the district under the Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey was carried out. This makes a total of 2,040 dwellings inspected since the survey commenced.

The houses were classified as follows :—

Class 1 (Satisfactory in all respects) ...	662
Class 2 (Requiring minor repairs only) ...	390
Class 3 (Requiring major repairs) ...	810
Class 5 (Beyond repair at reasonable cost)	178
	<hr/>
	2040
	<hr/>

Housing Progress.

Houses completed during the year :—

Private Enterprise ...	12	Local Authority ...	72
Stevenage Development Corporation ...	20		

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Unsound Food.

The following foods were, upon inspection, found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered :—

148lbs. of beef	1 tin damsons
2 tins processed peas	1 tin carrots
1 tin Australian pears	8 tins beetroot
58 tins grapefruit	1 tin mixed vegetables

Milk & Dairies Orders.

Forty-eight samples of heat-treated milk in respect of which the Council is the sampling authority, were taken and reported upon as satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

[illegible]

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different Months.

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
among the different Parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whoop- ing Ch.	Acute P.M.	Pneu- monia	Cerebro- Spinal M
Aston						
Bayford		3	1			
Benington						
Bengeo Rural		1			1	
Bramfield			1			
Brickendon Liberty		8	4			
Datchworth		5	1			
Hertingfordbury		19				
Little Amwell	2	15				
Little Berkhamstead		8	3			
Sacombe		3	2		1	
Stapleford		2	1			
Tewin		13	2			
Walkern					3	
Watton-at-Stone		1	2			
„ Heathmount School,						
Woodhall Park						

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1948	18	15	5	7	45
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases ...	7	6	1	3	17
Cases restored to Register ...	—	—	1	—	1
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths ...	3	3	—	—	6
Outward Transfers ...	7	6	3	2	18
Patients cured ...	2	—	1	—	3
Cases on Register 31/12/1948	13	12	3	8	36

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the half-year ending 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
No. Immunised	—	43	20	1	2	11	4	81

Number of Children under 15 who had completed a full course of Immunisation during the six months ending 5th July, 1948) 81

Number of Children under 15 who had received a re-inforcing dose ... 19

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation at any time up to 5th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised	—	46	121	79	105	405	266	1022
Estimated mid-year population 1948	689					1254		

